■ Super / F1

KC Concepcion's Paris duplex and her Sunday morning household chores

■ World / A10

Michael Jackson named 'Most Foolish American' for third time

■ News / A2

United Opposition elects ex-President Estrada chairman emeritus

■ Property / B2-2

New 19-hectare shopping complex rises in Ortigas

Tanong ng Bayan / A16

Pabor ba kayo sa 4-day workweek?

CELLCARD KADA ARAW, CELLPHONE KADA LINGGO! Text 2910 now!

Special session not special for Senate VAT measure

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

THE SENATE adjourned at 9:30 last night without passing its version of the expanded value-added tax measure. Senate President Franklin Drilon conceded that it might have to be approved during the regular session of Congress on April 11.

SPECIAL / A8

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Nora Aunor arrested, jailed in LA for drugs

FILIPINO superstar Nora Aunor was arrested at the Los Angeles International Airport late Wednesday (California time) on suspicion of felony methamphetamine (known in the Philippines as shabu) possession after security screeners allegedly found the substance in her carry-on bag, authorities said.

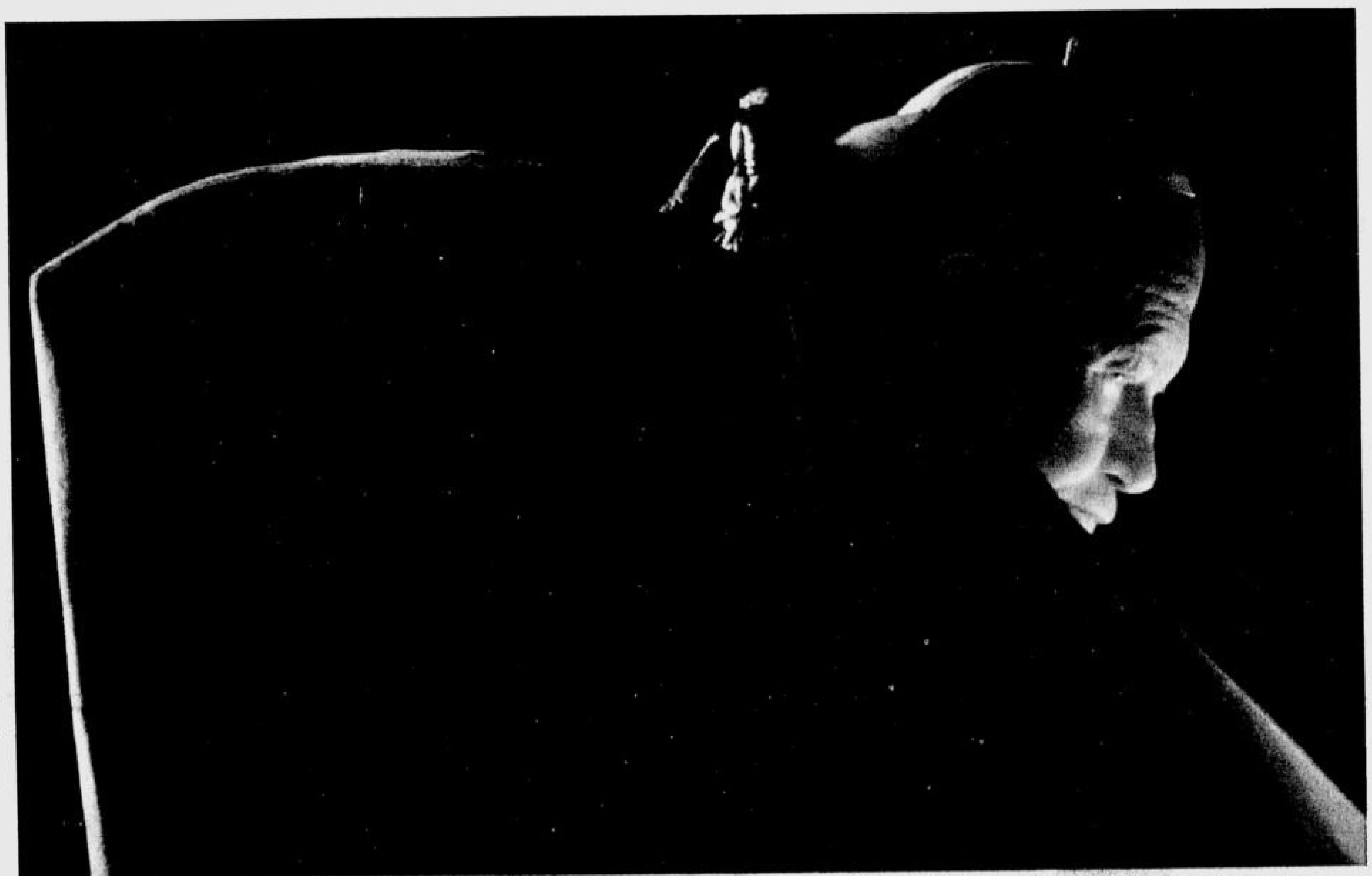
Aunor, 51, was stopped at the Terminal 1

NORA/ A18

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph Saturday, April 2, 2005 ★★★ 74 pages / 9 sections / Vol. 19 / No. 113 P18 website: www.inq7.net

POPE GRAVELY ILL

Catholics all over the world storm heaven with prayers



"FADING SERENELY," a Polish cardinal who visited Pope John Paul II early Friday describes the state of the Pontiff's health. He has left himself entirely in God's hands, says another visitor who had prayed with him. But he remains "conscious, lucid and serene." Here is a giant bent by illness as already can be gleaned from this file photo taken April 18, 2003 showing the Pope looking from the Palatine Hill during the Stations of the Cross ceremony in Rome. PDI PHOTO

VATICAN CITY—Struggling between life and death, John Paul II refused to be moved to a hospital yesterday, apparently preferring to end his days in dignity at the seat of the papacy as a successor of St. Peter, the apostle.

The condition of the 84-year-old head of the world's 1.1 billion Roman Catholics sharply deteriorated as he suffered heart failure and received the last rites of the Church.

The Pope's fragile health took a sharp turn for the worse on Thursday evening as he developed a high fever caused by a urinary tract infection. After initially stabilizing, his condition deteriorated further, the Vatican said.

"This morning, the Holy Father's health condition is very grave," it added. "Following a urinary tract infection, a septic shock with a cardio-circulatory collapse occurred."

It was not clear if the Pope had been connected to a life-support machine.

The Polish-born Pope is being treated by medical staff at the Vatican and refused to return to Rome's Gemelli clinic, where he was hospitalized twice in the past two months.

"The Holy Father's wish to remain in his home was respected, where complete and efficient medical assistance is assured," Vatican spokesperson Joaquin Navarro-Valls said.

"It was the last wish of Pope John Paul II: to not die ... in the entrance hall of a hospital, but to end his days in dignity as a Roman Pontiff, in his room overlooking St. Peter's," the newspaper daily La Repubblica said.

The Vatican statement said the Pope was still "conscious, lucid and tranquil" and had heard Mass as Friday dawn broke, but senior clergy indicated that his life was ebbing away.

"He is fading serenely," Polish Cardinal Andrzej Maria Deskur, a close friend, was quoted as saying by Agi news agency.

The Vatican angrily dismissed as "rubbish" Italian media reports that the Pope was in a coma.

It was highly unusual for the Vatican to reveal such details of the Pope's condition, a signal that it was preparing Roman Catholics for the demise of the frail and pained Pontiff.

Fears of an imminent death heightened after the Vatican announced that the Pope had received the "Holy Viaticum," the communion reserved for Catholics in danger of death.

John Paul received the last rites once before, in 1981, after being shot by a would-be assassin.

The Vatican statement came after a dramatic night in which conflicting reports emerged on the Pope's condition, with the Vatican Radio saying his condition had stabilized while some Italian television stations reported him on his deathbed.

"There is certainly a worsening of his situation. The Pope has almost no contact

POPE/ A17

From Poland to RP, crisis unites world's faithful

TEARFUL Roman Catholics across the world, from blue-collar workers in Poland to monks in the Norwegian Arctic and parishioners in the Philippines, prayed for Pope John Paul II amid fading hopes that he would recover.

In the Philippines, Manila resident Linda Nicol had tears streaming down her face after she and her husband, Romy, said prayers.

"Hopefully he can be given a longer life. He is really well-loved by the people," Nicol said.

President Macapagal-Arroyo said the country was "very sad" at the news of the Pope's grave condition.

"We really are grateful to the Lord that through all these many, many years, He gave us the wonderful leadership of the Pope in our Church," she said in Zamboanga City.

Top Filipino Catholic leaders called on the faithful to entrust the fate of the ailing Pontiff to the "will of God" as they called for prayers for his recovery.

Retired Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin, a good friend of the Pope, urged Catholics to seek the Lord's "guidance and strength at this difficult time."

"Let us entrust our Holy Father to the

FROM POLAND/ A17

REUTERS

THE NEED to be there for the Pope moves hundreds of people to rush as close as possible to his private quarters overlooking St. Peter's Square in the Vatican, and pray.

ERIK ARAZAS

THE FERVOR of the Filipinos for the Pontiff is not undiminished as churches all over the country hold vigils for the intentions of this extraordinary man who visited here twice.

US intelligence dead wrong on Iraq—report

WASHINGTON—US intelligence on Iraq was "dead wrong," dealing a blow to American credibility that will take years to undo, and spymasters still know disturbingly little about nuclear programs in countries like Iran and North Korea, a presidential commission reported on Thursday.

The commission's bluntly written report, based on more than a year of investigations, of-

US INTELLIGENCE/ A8

AIDS, terrorism, debts top IPU agenda

By TJ Burgonio and Philip C. Tubeza

GLOBAL matters including HIV/AIDS, terrorism, human rights, war crimes and the debt problem will top the agenda of the 112th Inter-Parliamentary Union general assembly, but other key issues such as the lack of democratic reforms in Burma (Myanmar) will be tackled at the sidelines.

Everything is set for the six-day assembly that kicks off tomorrow at the Philippine International Convention Center in Pasay City, organizers said yesterday. Manila is hosting the event for the first time since the IPU was established in 1889.

"From what we know, over 700 parliamentarians from 120 countries will be attending. This is a resounding success. This is the most well-attended [in the union's history]," Chilean Sen.

AIDS/ A6

Janjalani alive, vows to avenge Abu jail deaths

By Arlyn dela Cruz
Contributor

HE IS alive and has a message for the government.

"*Hindi libre ang dugo ng mujahideen* (The blood of our warriors will be avenged)," Abu Sayyaf Group leader Khaddafy Janjalani said.

He was referring to the 22 alleged ASG members killed March 15 during a failed escape from the Camp Bagong Diwa jail in Taguig.

Janjalani, head of the Al-Harakatul Al-Islamiya, by which the Abu Sayyaf now wants to be known, insisted in a phone interview with this reporter on March 26 that only 10 of those killed had been core members of the ASG.

He said that Commander Kosovo, one of those slain and a cousin

JANJALANI/ A18

Battle rages over Schiavo's dead body

PINELLAS PARK, Florida—The life of brain-damaged woman Terri Schiavo has ended but the battle over her fate is still raging in the United States, with a leading lawmaker vowing to take action against an "arrogant, out-of-control" judiciary.

The remains of Schiavo were taken under police guard to forensic experts in Pinellas County to determine the cause of death and exam-

BATTLE/ A17

E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph
Text us your feedback: inquirer news name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Extreme Northern Luzon will have mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers while Mindanao will experience mostly cloudy skies with rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy with isolated rainshowers or thunderstorms.

COMPILED BY: CHONA GALANG, PDI RESEARCH/04/02/04 SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	**Iloilo/Bacolod**	Partly Cloudy
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	**Roxas**	Partly Cloudy
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	**Cebu**	Partly Cloudy
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	**Tacloban**	Partly Cloudy
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	**Gen. Santos**	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	**Zamboanga**	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Partly Cloudy	**Cagayan de Oro**	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Partly Cloudy	**Davao**	Cloudy with Rains

Marcelo: Gov't targeting 'big fish'

By Fe Zamora and Michelle V. Remo

CONGRESSMEN, governors, generals and other top government officials are among the "big fish" in the 50 "high impact" graft cases under trial at the Sandiganbayan, Ombudsman Simeon Marcelo said yesterday.

The respondents in the "high impact" cases were "high ranking government officials who are represented by the best lawyers that money can buy," Marcelo said in his speech before the South East Asia Parliamentarians Against Corruption (Seapac) conference held at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC) in Manila. *(See related story on this page.)*

Marcelo said the Ombudsman's "Operation Big Fish" targets the overpriced President Diosdado Macapagal Boulevard, the Retirement System and Benefits Services (RSBS) pension fund case, the Public Estates Authority-Amari case, the tax credit Scam cases, the DPWH vehicle repair scam cases and several cases filed against the Marcoses and their cronies by the Presidential Commission on Good Government.

"The common criticism against the office has been that despite its 15 years of existence, it has failed to indict and successfully prosecute the proverbial 'big fish,'" Marcelo said in his speech "The Status of Combating Corruption in the Philippines."

Declog the courts

He said the lack of competent prosecutors to face the "best lawyers" hired by the defendants in the graft cases was partly the reason the "big fish" go scot-free.

The "high impact" cases include the P143 million ill-gotten wealth case against retired Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia, which was filed this year.

Marcelo said at least 200 prosecutors would be needed to resolve the 2,000 pending cases in the Sandiganbayan.

At present, however, the Ombudsman had only 62 prosecutors, he said.

Marcelo also cited a pending Senate bill that would allow the Regional Trial Courts to prosecute graft cases involving amounts under P1 million, and for the individual justices to hear graft cases involving amounts under P5 million.

Graft cases that involve sums of P5 million pesos and above can be tried by a division of three judges, Marcelo said.

The proposed bill, authored by Sen. Mar Roxas, would declog the graft court of 40 percent or 800 of 2,000 cases which have been pending since the '90s.

Hope springs eternal

In an attempt to finally win a tax evasion case against a big fish, government prosecutors "flooded" the Metropolitan Trial Court of Marikina (MTC) with over 50,000 documents serving as their evidence against Lucio Tan's cigarette firm Fortune Tobacco Corp.

The documents included articles of incorporation of companies alleged to be dummy corporations of Fortune Tobacco, certifications stating the non-existence of over 2,000 individuals identified by Fortune as its cigarette dealers, and manufacturers' sworn statements which detailed the cigarette firm's sales to its marketing arms.

The government's prosecuting team, led by State Prosecutor Susan Dacanay, presented as witness, former Bureau of Internal Revenue Commissioner Liwayway Vinzons-Chato yesterday, the second day of the hearing in the Lucio Tan case after it was recently remanded to the MTC.

Chato told the court, presided over by Judge Alex Ruiz, that she ordered the filing of the tax evasion case against Fortune after an investigation by the BIR concluded that Fortune Tobacco had underdeclared its taxable income in the years 1990, 1991 and 1992. The alleged underdeclaration resulted in multibillion-peso worth of unremitted income taxes, value-added taxes and ad valorem taxes.

Unpaid taxes

The prosecuting team had placed the amount of unpaid taxes at about P7 billion for 1992 alone. Earlier estimates for all three years was pegged at P25 billion, but the prosecutors said the amount could be much higher due to surcharges and interests.

On the part of the accused, lead defense lawyer Estelito Mendoza told reporters that the articles of incorporation presented by the prosecution do not help prove there was underdeclaration of taxable income by Fortune Tobacco.

He said that just because the articles of incorporations of the nine marketing arms were notarized by the same person didn't mean they were all related companies.

Last week, the BIR filed tax evasion and estafa charges against telecommunication firm Philippine Telephone & Telegraph Corp. (PT&T) with the Department of Justice for allegedly failing to remit P560 million in withholding taxes.

The BIR also filed tax evasion and estafa charges yesterday against Excellence Weaving Mills Inc. for underdeclaring its income for 2000 and 2001.

United Opposition picks Erap chairman emeritus

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

THE PRESIDENT'S loss is the opposition's gain.

While President Macapagal-Arroyo is becoming increasingly unpopular based on a latest survey, the United Opposition (UNO) is becoming "stronger than ever," its leaders claimed yesterday.

Opposition leaders presented the other night their formal organizational structure for the first time and designated deposed President Joseph Estrada as their "chairman emeritus."

"Our people can take no more. The country can take no more. Enough is enough," Estrada said in a statement read during a meeting of UNO members in San Juan.

"*Alam nating lahat kung ano ang dapat nating gawin.*(We all know what should be done.) Let's do it as one," Estrada added.

The former president, who is presently detained on plunder charges, also said he was keeping his promise to his friend, the late movie actor and presidential candidate Fernando Poe Jr., whose electoral protest against Ms Arroyo was recently dismissed by the Presidential Electoral Tribunal.

"*Nangako ako na itutuloy ko ang kanyang laban* (I promised him that I would continue his fight.)," Estrada said.

Makati City Mayor Jejomar Binay, who was designated UNO President, told the INQUIRER the formalization of the organizational structure made the opposition "more united and stronger than ever."

"This time, our group is sufficient to go around the country," he said.

House Minority Floor Leader Francis Escudero, Poe's spokesperson during the election campaign, was named UNO secretary general.

The leader of an allied party-list group told UNO members during the meeting that the situation in the country now seemed to be going in favor of the opposition.

He cited the slide in Ms Arroyo's popularity. The President received her lowest approval rating since she became president in 2001 based on a latest Pulse Asia Inc. survey.

San Juan Mayor JV Ejercito said the organizational structure was UNO's answer to earlier criticisms that the opposition was fragmented and weak.

"I think this will be a giant step forward in strengthening the opposition," Ejercito said.

JOIN THE UNRESERVED PUBLIC AUCTION OF
AUCTION IN MALINTA
TRUCKS • HEAVY EQUIPMENT • MISC. ITEMS
On these dates:
APR. 22 - 25, 2005
STARTS AT 8:30 A.M. SHARP
Inspection dates:
APR. 16 - 21, 2005
1 of 110 Excavators — CAT 320 EXCAVATOR, LATE MODEL
1 of 30 Bulldozers — KOMATSU D65P BULLDOZER
1 of 30 Wheel Loaders — TCM L34 WHEEL LOADER
1 of 15 Motor Graders — KOMATSU GD405A-2 MOTOR GRADER WITH SCARIFIER
1 of 85 Dump Trucks — ISUZU 10W DUMP TRUCK SINGLE EYE
1 of 15 Tractor Heads — FUSO 6W TRACTOR HEAD LATE MODEL
1 of 40 Dropside Cargoes — ISUZU 10W ALUM. HI-SIDE DROPSIDE W/ POWER TAILGATE
1 of 40 Dropside Cargoes — ISUZU ELF DROPSIDE W/ CRANE
1 of 240 Closed Vans — FUSO CANTER ALUM. CLOSED VAN, LATE MODEL
1 of 25 Wing Vans — ISUZU FORWARD NRR ALUM. WING VAN
1 of 35 Buses — NISSAN CITY BUS
ISUZU 10T CABIN ASSY
For inquiries please call:
(02)984-6741 • (02)984-6753 • (02)984-0215/16
Trucks & Equipment Financing available thru:
ORIX METRO Leasing & Finance Corp. • Tel (02) 858-8888
Email us: info@auctioninmalinta.com • Visit our website: www.auctioninmalinta.com
To Manila
To Baguio
NORTH Expressway
To Mc Arthur Hi-way
EAST SERVICE ROAD
AUCTION SITE
EVER MEMORIAL GARDEN
ROYAL MALL
Valenzuela Exit
Lawang Bato Temporary Exit

TALKING BUSINESS. President Macapagal-Arroyo meets with foreign investors during a visit yesterday to the Zamboanga City Special Economic Zone and Freeport Authority. From left: Prabakar Selvam, OMEC Corp.; Mctmir Tillah and Frank Huang, South Gate Ace Marine, and Henry Zhang and Freddy Ng, Demar Motor Mfng. Officials said the Zamboanga Ecozone is considered an ideal backup site for Arabic call centers. EDWIN BACASMAS

Regional anticorruption group elects Angara

MEMBERS of the newly formed South East Asia Parliamentarians Against Corruption (Seapac) have agreed to cooperate in the fight against graft and corruption in the region and put in place much needed government reforms to address the problem.

Sen. Edgardo J. Angara, who was elected president of Seapac, yesterday said that four broad areas of cooperation were agreed upon.

These are:

- Institutionalization of the fight against corruption.
- Capacity and knowledge building, focused on relevant legislation to help fight corruption
- Reform dialogues
- Collectively work for the adoption of the UN Convention Against Corruption

Angara said the first area aims to build a network of parliamentarians from across the region who are committed to fighting corruption in its many practices and forms on a sustained basis.

From the initial core group that attended the Manila Conference, Seapac would increase its membership and intensify anticorruption activities.

The second area of cooperation is focused on research and legal work to strengthen the legal framework of Asean congresses and parliaments in the regional fight against corruption.

The third area commits members to participate in continuous dialogues and conferences to principally discuss reform legislation and good practices in the region.

Collective work to help speed up the normal adoption of the UN convention Against Corruption is the fourth area of corruption.

Angara said Asean parliamentarians would also regularly exchange information, fund exchange visits among members, share experiences in fighting corruption, and put in place reforms to further strengthen their work.

A secretariat, initially to be based in Manila, will be set up to coordinate the various activities of Seapac with like-minded institutions, principally the Ottawa-based Parliamentarians Against Corruption, according to Angara.

The UN Convention Against Corruption, which has 21 of the 30 signatures needed for its formal adoption is a landmark document that deals with such things such as money-laundering, the seizure of stolen assets, and the early prevention of corrupt practices.

Angara expressed the hope that the convention would be adopted soon with a push from the countries with parliaments in Seapac.

Ex-senator Montano dies at 99

FORMER senator and Cavite Rep. Justiniano S. Montano, whose colorful political career spanned the terms of eight presidents, died on Thursday at the age of 99.

Montano represented the lone district of Cavite from the Commonwealth days up to the 7th Congress of the Republic when his term was cut short by the declaration of martial law and the abolition of Congress by President Ferdinand E. Marcos.

At the age of 29, Montano won a seat representing the province of Cavite in the National Assembly in 1935. It was the first election held under the 1935 Constitution and in the Commonwealth government of President Manuel L. Quezon.

Montano's term in Congress was interrupted only in 1949 when he was elected to a six-year term in the Senate, where he organized the so-called "Little Senate" to check the administration of then President Elpidio Quirino.

He was instrumental in the creation of the Senate blue ribbon Committee, of which he was the first chair.

It was while serving as a senator in 1952 that Montanao was ordered arrested by President Quirino in connection with the so-called "Maragondon Massacre." Then Defense Secretary Ramon Magsaysay arrested the senator with a contingent from the Armed Forces. Montano was eventually acquitted by the courts and cleared of the charges.

After his stint at the Senate, Montano went back to the House of Representatives in 1955 where he served continuously until his term was cut short by the declaration of martial law in 1972.

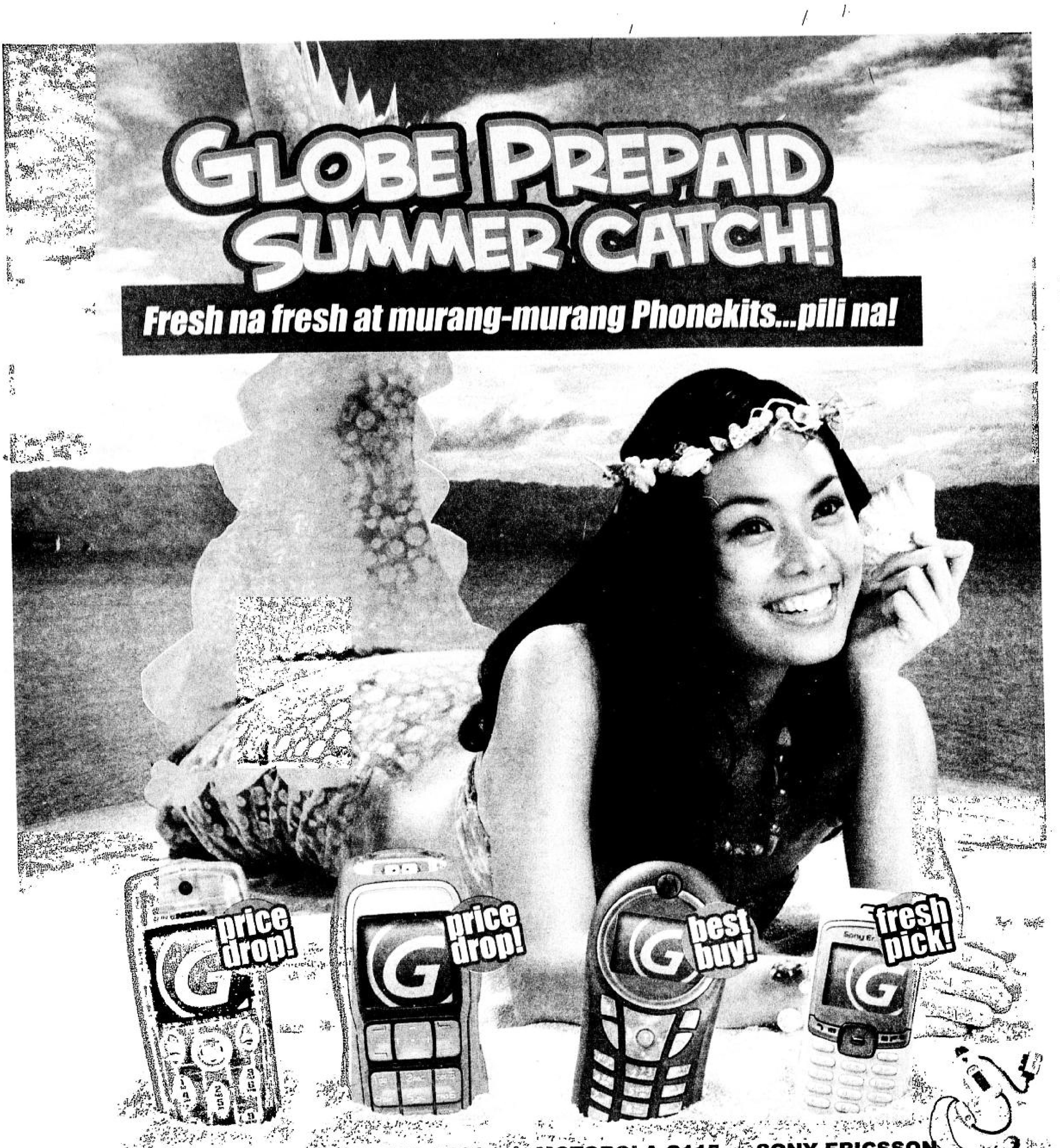
Montano was distinguished as arguably the best parliamentarian of his time. As majority floor leader, he was able to use his exceptional skills in parliamentary procedure to steer the approval of significant labor and agrarian reform legislation, including the Magna Carta of Labor and the Land Tenure Law.

He is survived by his children, Dr. Lita Montano-Canoy, lawyer Irene Montano-de los Angeles and lawyer Julian S. Montano.

His body lies in state at the Santuario de San Jose in Greenhills, San Juan.

GLOBE PREPAID SUMMER CATCH!

Fresh na fresh at murang-murang Phonekits...pili na!

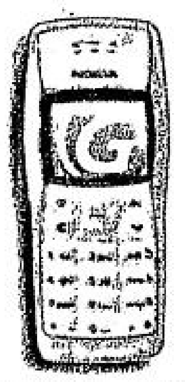


NOKIA 3200
₱7,990
~~₱8,590~~
- MMS & GPRS Capable
- Java & WAP ready
- Built-in camera

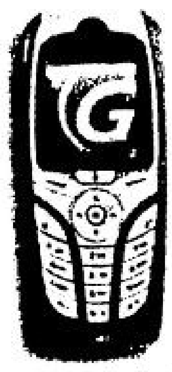
NOKIA 3220
₱10,990
~~₱11,790~~
- MMS & GPRS Capable
- Java & WAP ready
- Built-in camera

MOTOROLA C115
₱2,490
- 500 min. talk time
- Stopwatch and alarm clock
- Screen savers and games

SONY ERICSSON T290i
₱4,990
- ₱5,990 w/ FM handset
- MMS & GPRS Capable
- Polyphonic Tones

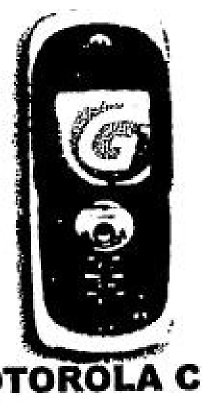


NOKIA 1100
₱3,590
- Built-in flashlight
- Animated screen saver
- Text messaging with pictures



MOTOROLA C380
₱4,890
- MMS & GPRS Capable
- Java & WAP ready
- Polyphonic Tones
- 65k color display

PANASONIC A200
₱5,290
- MMS & GPRS Capable
- Java & WAP ready
- Polyphonic Tones



MOTOROLA C651
₱5,990
- MMS & GPRS Capable
- Java & WAP ready
- Polyphonic Tones
- 65k color display

NOKIA 2650
₱6,990
- MMS & GPRS Capable
- Java & WAP ready
- Polyphonic Tones

All Phonekits come with a Globe Prepaid SIM

- Nokia 1100
- Motorola C115

- Motorola C380
- Motorola C651
- Nokia 2650
- Nokia 3200
- Nokia 3220
- Panasonic A200
- SE T290i

Call Globe Direct at 751-8888 to have your Globe Prepaid phonekit delivered to your doorstep for free or rush to the nearest Globe Telecom Business Center or dealer now!

making a great summer possible

Globe HANDYPHONE

GMA to US: RP tough on terror

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday allayed the United States' fears that her government had gone soft on Muslim rebels by vowing to go after terrorists "hammer and tongs."

"Our policy is quite clear—that we will go hammer and tongs against terrorists, we will not negotiate with terrorists and we shall make peace only with those who absolutely reject terrorism," the President said in a statement that she read during a visit to Zamboanga City yesterday.

"We shall pursue with determination programs of peace and development that will resolve the root cause of conflict and mop up the breeding grounds of terrorist sentiment," she said.

Visiting US officials led by Adm. William Fallon, head of the US Pacific Command, warned on Wednesday that the mainstream Muslim insurgency, the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, had ties to the Abu Sayyaf kidnap gang and the Southeast Asia-based Jemaah Islamiyah, two groups that the US has linked to the al-Qaida international terror network.

Washington frowns on the Philippine policy of pursuing peace negotiations with the MILF, saying it showed the government was tolerating the rebel group's terrorist links. The talks are to resume in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on April 16..

The US has advocated the MILF's inclusion in the US state department's blacklist of foreign terrorist organizations.

Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita has appealed to the US to keep the MILF out of its terrorist list because it could undermine peace initiatives.

To prove the Philippines' determination to go after terrorists, the President said the military would not stop its offensive in Mindanao.

"I don't think the rest of the country wants to declare an outright ceasefire. We have to continue to conduct focused pursuit. There are specific personality targets and the military is directed to run after these specific personalities," she said.

Ms Arroyo also assured the US and other allies that "we will continue to work in all fronts of intelligence sharing, training and conflict resolution to isolate and destroy terrorist cells and their networks."

In Congress, legislators yesterday accused the US of trying to derail the peace talks with the MILF.

Sulu Rep. Gerry Salapuddin, the House deputy speaker for Mindanao, and Cebu City Rep. Antonio Cuenco, chair of the House committee on foreign affairs, said the US warning was "ill-timed and highly suspicious" since it came shortly before the resumption of the talks.

Cuenco said the administration had given the MILF the "benefit of the doubt" on allegations that it had ties with the JI and the ASG. He said the talks were of "greater importance" than "what the US thinks about the MILF."

"We are careful not to burn the lines with the MILF.. We have worked hard to keep the peace process moving despite the clashes in Mindanao," he said.

In Cotabato City, the military said it was in "hot pursuit" of more than 16 suspected JI terrorists in central Mindanao.

"We are tracking down this terror group, (whose members are) mostly Indonesian nationals and has established cells engaged in training local followers in bomb-making and other terroristic activities," said Maj. Gen. Raul Relano, commander of the Army's 6th Infantry Division.

In Zamboanga City, the President said Fawaz Zi Ajjur, the recently arrested Kuwaiti found carrying a Palestinian passport, was a confirmed al-Qaida operative. *With reports from Philip Tubeza and Tarra Quismundo, Metro Manila, and Charlie Señase, Julie S. Alipala and Anthony S. Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Solon accuses Gonzalez of unfairly targeting Muslims

By Michael Lim Ubac

A PARTY-LIST representative from Mindanao yesterday accused Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez of targeting Muslims unfairly in the government's antiterror drive.

Rep. Mujiv Hataman of the Anak ng Mindanao said it was "irresponsible" and "unjust" of Gonzalez to have ordered the immigration bureau to monitor the reentry of overseas Filipino workers and Filipino students from the Middle East who had converted to Islam to check whether or not they had links to terrorists.

"Not all Muslims are bad guys. It's as if all problems are being blamed [on us]. Why? Are we the only ones capable of such outrage?" Hataman said in Filipino.

He said officials should not issue statements that differentiate Muslims from the rest of the population as this tended to create hatred toward Muslims.

But the Mindanao representative agreed that law enforcement agencies had the duty to go after crooks and terrorists and employ such measures as monitoring international airports and seaports.

"They should be vigilant. But they should not make pronouncements like branding individuals as Muslims because this will not help at all. Are they saying that a non-Muslim can enter the country and go about his business freely while Muslims would be monitored?" he asked in Filipino.

Hataman said it was also "unfair" to subject returning OFWs to surveillance when they had done so much to help the economy through their regular dollar remittances.

In a March 30 memorandum to the Bureau of Immigration and the National Bureau of Investigation, Gonzalez directed both agencies to "closely monitor the entry of (OFWs) coming from the Middle East, especially from Saudi Arabia, and likewise students from Pakistan who had studied in the various madrasah [Muslim schools]."

The secretary said this was necessary "because intelligence reports show that some of the so-called Balik-Islams became Muslims extremists and terrorists when they returned to the Philippines."

Gonzalez said his directive could not be construed as harassment of converts to Islam.

"It's not. It's a defense mechanism of the state," he said.

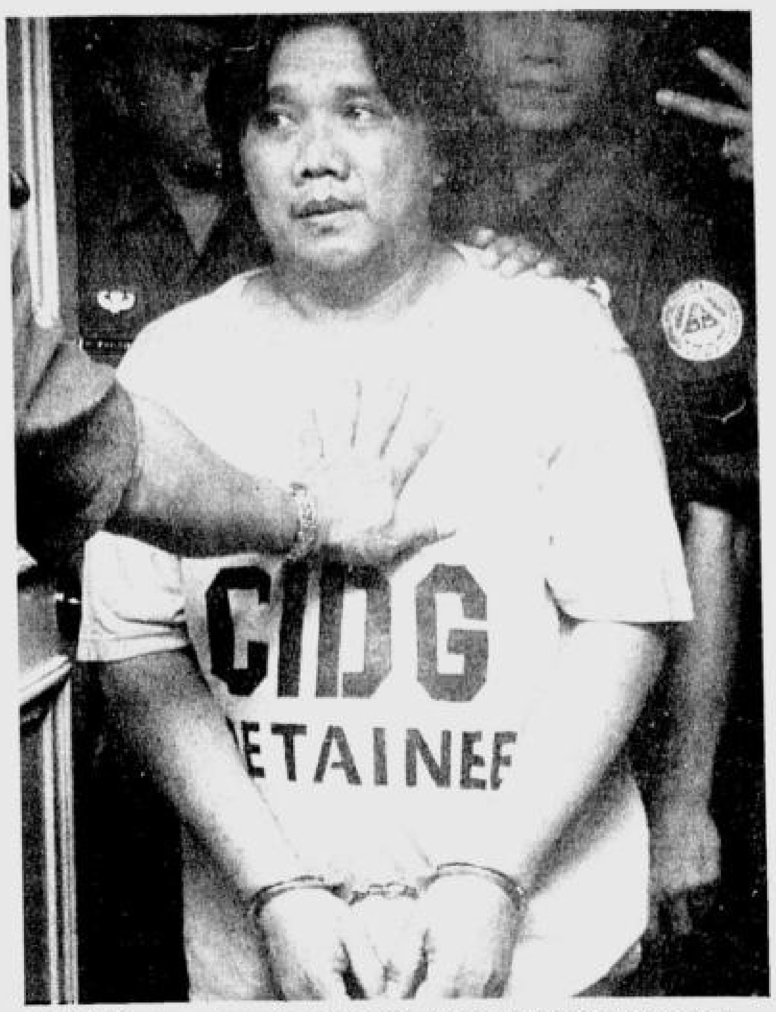
Correction

IN THE story "The healing touch of Fr. Momoy" which was published on Page A1 of the March 21 issue, it was mentioned that aside from Fr. Momoy's Friday healing sessions in Bonga, Albay, he goes to the Divine Mercy Church in Novaliches for more healing services. The Divine Mercy Church is in Mandaluyong and not in Novaliches as earlier mentioned to the INQUIRER by Father Momoy. For Father Momoy's schedule, please call Brother Dick (0920)2153168.

* * *

Readers may send their requests for correction of factual errors in writing to Gerry Lirio, city editor, Philippine Daily Inquirer, PDI Building, Chino Roces Avenue corner Mascardo Street, Makati City; fax Nos. 897-4793/94; e-mail addresses:glirio@inquirer.com.ph and daydesk@inquirer.com.ph.

Complaints about lack of fairness or objectivity may be sent to Raul Palabrica, readers' advocate, the same address and fax numbers as those of the city editor, and e-mail address:rpalabrica@inquirer.com.ph.



ANDIE Montawal, an alleged member of the Pentagon kidnap-for-ransom gang is escorted by policemen after his presentation to the media in Camp Crame. Montawal carried a P175,000 price on his head. JOAN BONDOC

Pentagon member nabbed

A SUSPECTED member of the notorious Pentagon kidnap-for-ransom group involved in the abduction of four Chinese engineers in Cotabato in 2001 was arrested on Thursday by police authorities.

Police identified the suspect as Andie Montawal, who carried a P175,000 price on his head. He was collared in a pension house on Bonifacio Street in Cotabato City.

No other details of his capture were disclosed.

Officials also declined to reveal what Montawal had told investigators so as not to jeopardize follow-up operations.

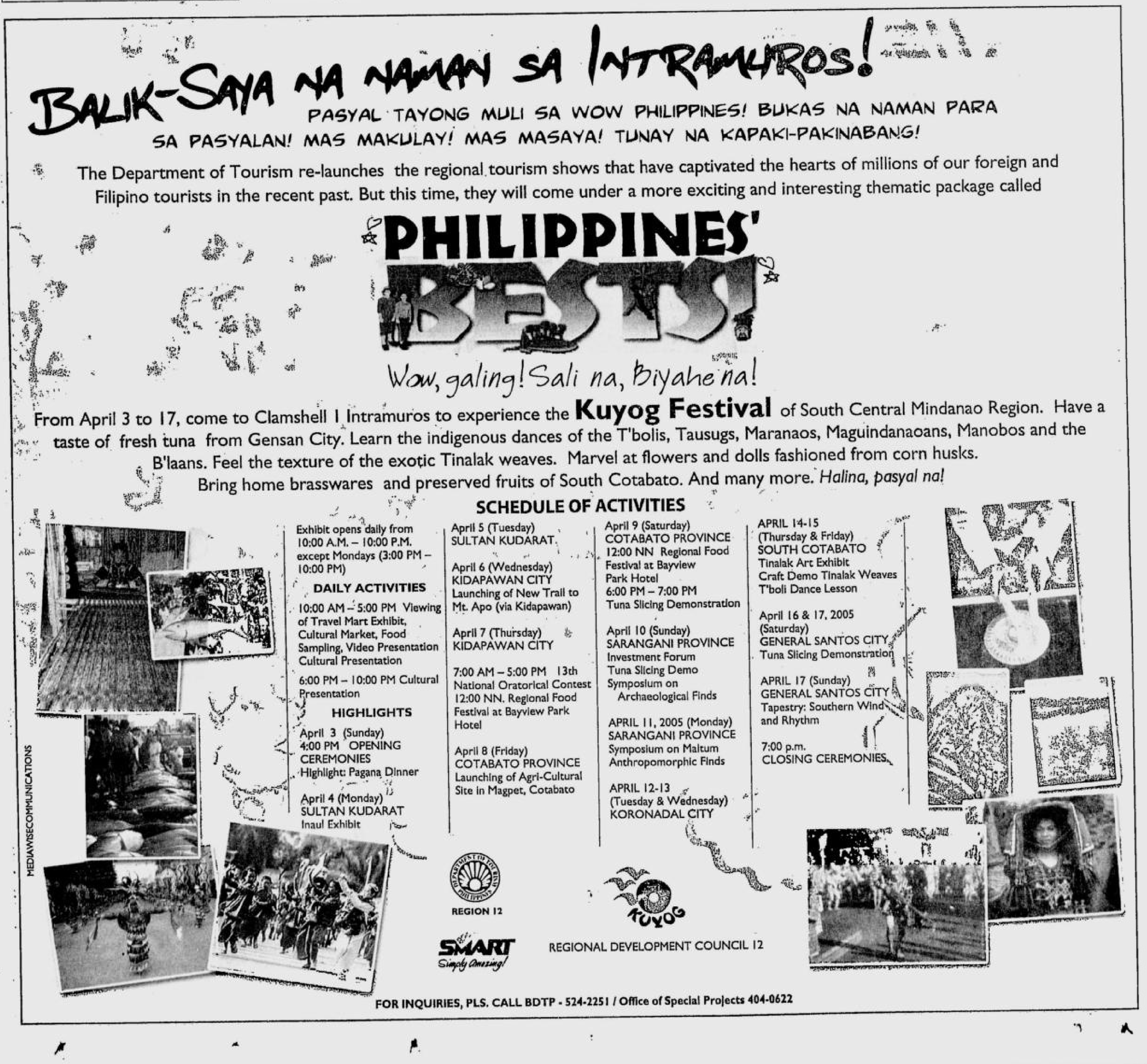
The Criminal Investigation and Detection Group said Montawal and three others—Kautin Montawal, Nasser Bantolimay and Percival Ceriales—were responsible for the kidnapping of Zhang Zhong Yi, a Chinese engineer working for the Malmar Irrigation Project in Cotabato four years ago.

Aside from Montawal, the police had captured alive only one other member of the Pentagon group—Faisal Marahombsar, its alleged leader.

Marahombsar was killed in Cavite shortly after escaping from his detention cell in Camp Crame in 2002.

Chief Supt. Ricardo Dapat, CIDG chief, said a Quezon City court had earlier issued a warrant for Montawal's arrest.

Dapat told reporters the police have not assessed the present strength of the Pentagon gang. *Luige A. del Puerto*



BALIK-SAYA NA NAMAN SA INTRAMUROS!
PASYAL TAYONG MULI SA WOW PHILIPPINES! BUKAS NA NAMAN PARA SA PASYALAN! MAS MAKULAY! MAS MASAYA! TUNAY NA KAPAKI-PAKINABANG!

The Department of Tourism re-launches the regional tourism shows that have captivated the hearts of millions of our foreign and Filipino tourists in the recent past. But this time, they will come under a more exciting and interesting thematic package called

'PHILIPPINES' BESTS!

Wow, galing! Sali na, Biyahe na!

From April 3 to 17, come to Clamshell 1 Intramuros to experience the **Kuyog Festival** of South Central Mindanao Region. Have a taste of fresh tuna from Gensan City. Learn the indigenous dances of the T'bolis, Tausugs, Maranaos, Maguindanaoans, Manobos and the B'laans. Feel the texture of the exotic Tinalak weaves. Marvel at flowers and dolls fashioned from corn husks. Bring home brasswares and preserved fruits of South Cotabato. And many more. *Halina, pasyal na!*

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

Exhibit opens daily from 10:00 A.M. – 10:00 P.M. except Mondays (3:00 PM – 10:00 PM)

DAILY ACTIVITIES

10:00 AM – 5:00 PM Viewing of Travel Mart Exhibit, Cultural Market, Food Sampling, Video Presentation Cultural Presentation

6:00 PM – 10:00 PM Cultural Presentation

HIGHLIGHTS

April 3 (Sunday)
4:00 PM OPENING CEREMONIES
Highlight: Pagana Dinner

April 4 (Monday)
SULTAN KUDARAT
Inaul Exhibit

April 5 (Tuesday)
SULTAN KUDARAT

April 6 (Wednesday)
KIDAPAWAN CITY
Launching of New Trail to Mt. Apo (via Kidapawan)

April 7 (Thursday)
KIDAPAWAN CITY

7:00 AM – 5:00 PM 13th National Oratorical Contest
12:00 NN. Regional Food Festival at Bayview Park Hotel

April 8 (Friday)
COTABATO PROVINCE
Launching of Agri-Cultural Site in Magpet, Cotabato

April 9 (Saturday)
COTABATO PROVINCE
12:00 NN Regional Food Festival at Bayview Park Hotel
6:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Tuna Slicing Demonstration

April 10 (Sunday)
SARANGANI PROVINCE
Investment Forum
Tuna Slicing Demo
Symposium on Archaeological Finds

APRIL 11, 2005 (Monday)
SARANGANI PROVINCE
Symposium on Maitum Anthropomorphic Finds

APRIL 12-13
(Tuesday & Wednesday)
KORONADAL CITY

APRIL 14-15
(Thursday & Friday)
SOUTH COTABATO
Tinalak Art Exhibit
Craft Demo Tinalak Weaves
T'boli Dance Lesson

April 16 & 17, 2005
(Saturday)
GENERAL SANTOS CITY
Tuna Slicing Demonstration

APRIL 17 (Sunday)
GENERAL SANTOS CITY
Tapestry: Southern Wind and Rhythm

7:00 p.m.
CLOSING CEREMONIES

REGION 12
KUYOG
SMART Simply Amazing!
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL 12

FOR INQUIRIES, PLS. CALL BDTP - 524-2251 / Office of Special Projects 404-0622

MEDIAWISECOMMUNICATIONS

Save water, metro folk urged

By Leila B. Salaverria

METRO residents affected by the blocking of the Umiray tunnel have barely begun to enjoy the now almost normal water flow than officials have begun calling for water conservation and warning of the depletion of the Angat dam water reserves.

Water at the reservoir stood above the critical level yesterday at 182.44 meters, but could reach the critical level of 180 meters in a week's time, said Jorge Tioko, chief of the monitoring enforcement division of the National Water Resources Board.

"Even with the clearing of the Umiray tunnel, we must conserve water. The water is being depleted at a fast rate. And there is the El Niño," Tioko told reporters at a Philippine Press Institute forum yesterday.

Angat Dam, which gets about 30 percent of its water through the Umiray tunnel, supplies 97 percent of the water requirements of Metro Manila and also provides water for irrigation in Bulacan and Pampanga provinces.

According to Tioko, at the rate that water is being currently supplied to the Angat dam, the water level at the reservoir could go down to 164.75 meters by June.

But he was also quick to add that that forecast could change because the supply of water fluctuates.

He said the initial forecast was even lower but was raised after the Umiray tunnel was cleared during Easter week.

The NWRB earlier decreased the supply of water to Metro Manila after the debris from floods and landslides caused by several storms had blocked the water flow from the Umiray tunnel. The 13 km-long passageway diverts water from the Umiray River in Quezon province and delivers it to the Angat dam in Norzagaray, Bulacan.

With the tunnel's clearing, water flow to Metro Manila was raised to 41 cubic meters per second. The normal flow is 46 cubic meters per second.

Jess Matubis, vice president for communications of the Maynilad water utility, said yesterday the increase in water supply had improved the flow in the Maynilad concession areas that had been affected by the earlier depletion in supply.

Despite the positive development, however, Matubis said it was still necessary to conserve water as Maynilad may not be able to sustain production from its treatment plants.

"We can't be sure the rains will come by June. At the rate the Angat dam is being depleted, we may exceed the levels during the El Niño in 1998," he said.

Recognize our help, RP asks Israel

THE PHILIPPINES has asked the Israeli government to formally recognize the role played by Filipinos in protecting Jewish refugees during World War II, the Department of Foreign Affairs said yesterday.

Ambassador Antonio Modena, the country's envoy to Tel Aviv, initiated the move in a recent meeting with officials of Yad Vashem, Israel's newly opened memorial to the six million Jews slaughtered by the Nazis.

"The Filipino people welcomed Jewish refugees to the Philippines at a time when the rest of the world slammed its doors to people seeking sanctuary from Nazi tyranny," the DFA quoted Modena as saying.

At a meeting, Modena said Gen. Avner Shalev (ret.), the memorial's chair and chief curator, told him that "some form of recognition should be made for the role played by the Filipinos and the Philippines in saving some of the Jews from the jaws of death in Nazi concentration camps."

Modena said the recognition sought by Manila could be in the form of "a street or plaza (in Israel) named after the Philippines, the Filipino people, or President Manuel Quezon." *Volt Contreras, with AFP*

SIGE NA NGA, BIBILI NA TAYO NG VAN!
NOW IS THE BEST TIME TO TAKE OUT A PERSONAL LOAN FROM HSBC. BIG SAVINGS! KAYA ANG PAG-UPGRADE NG KOTSE NIYO AY SIGURADONG MATUTULOY!

Personal Loans at our lowest rate. For a limited time only.

Call 840-0990

- Loan amounts from Php30,000 to Php500,000
- Fast approval
- Waived processing fees

ACT NOW AND SAVE!

Pay only Php2,041.26 a month, and save Php2,927.45 on total loan payments for a Php50,000 personal loan.*

* For a 36-month tenor loan. Offer until 30 June 2005 only. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1495. Series of 2005.

HSBC
The world's local bank

Issued by The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

mercury drug
NAKASISIGURO GAMOT AY LAGING BAGO

DISCOUNTS FOR SUKI CARD HOLDERS!

SUKI SABADO SPECIAL

APRIL 02 to 08, 2005

GLUCOLYTE SOL 250ML
REG. PRICE: P 61.00
PAY ONLY 57.75
REG OR APPLE

GLUCOLYTE PDR MIXTURE
REG. PRICE: P 14.25
PAY ONLY 13.50

ASCOF SYR 300MG/5ML 60ML
REG. PRICE: P 90.75
PAY ONLY 86.00

ASCOF SYR 300MG/5ML 120ML
REG. PRICE: P 118.25
PAY ONLY 112.25

ASCOF TAB 300MG
REG. PRICE: P 2.50
PAY ONLY 2.35

ASCOF FTE TAB 600MG 20
REG. PRICE: P 76.75
PAY ONLY 70.00

ASCOF FTE TAB 600MG
REG. PRICE: P 3.70
PAY ONLY 3.50

MENTOPAS MEDIC PLSTR 10
REG. PRICE: P 30.00
PAY ONLY 27.00

CARNATION NFAT PDR MLK 200G
REG. PRICE: P 81.25
PAY ONLY 78.75

CARNATION NFAT PDR MILK 800G
REG. PRICE: P 278.50
PAY ONLY 270.00

CARNATION NFAT PDR MILK 450G
REG. PRICE P 172.25
PAY ONLY 167.00

Suki Card Program Guidelines
1. The Suki Card Program is available to all customers over 18 years old.
2. To receive a Suki Card, customer must present receipt(s) of single or cumulative purchases worth P1,000.00 made from any Mercury Drug Store
2. Suki Card Members are entitled to discounts from participating products.
4. All purchases made through the Suki Card will earn points. Every purchase of P200.00 is equivalent to 1 point.
5. Mercury Drug Suki Points are redeemable in multiples of 10 points. Every Suki Point is equivalent to P1.00
6. Always present your Suki Card before making any purchases.
7. Mercury Drug reserves the right to modify or restrict the usage of the card without prior notice.

PER DOH-BFAD PERMIT NO. 0314-S-2005

The Suki Card program is available in all Metro Manila branches including Bulacan (except Baliuag), Cavite, Laguna (except San Pablo), Rizal, Robinsons Starmills Pampanga, Baguio, La Trinidad, La Union and Bicol (except Legaspi and Abella) branches.
Right reserved to limit quantities on all items. These promo discounts shall not be used together with any other discount privilege. For other promos, please visit our website at: www.mercurydrug.com

AIDS, terrorism, debts top IPU agenda

From page A1

Sergio Paez Verdugo, IPU president, said at a press briefing.

At least 600 delegates from 16 countries flew in on Thursday alone as organizers put final touches to elaborate preparations, including security.

Senate officials expect 1,500 parliamentarians from 145 countries worldwide to attend. The bulk of the delegates is expected to arrive today and tomorrow.

"We have not received any cancellation [notice]. That's good news," Carmen Razon-Arceño, chair of the organizing committee, said in a phone interview.

Verdugo, who has toured the PICC as well as the Cultural Center of the Philippines, venue of the opening gala, expressed satisfaction with the preparations.

"This is very well-planned, well-organized. We have no problem with anything whatsoever... to carry on with our work," he said, speaking in Spanish which was translated by a staff member. "They have done a splendid job."

"Everything is in place. It's all systems go," Senate President Franklin Drilon added in an interview.

Arceño said repair work at the CCP and PICC, including the replacement of lighting systems, carpets and glass doors, and the repainting and burnishing of the facade and walls, had been completed.

"We're all set to give it our best shot," she said.

Verdugo said the controversial issue of Burma, particularly the failure of its military junta to set a timetable for its "road map to democracy," was not included in the conference agenda but would be tackled anyway by parliamentarians in the region.

"Any resolution will be communicated to us for us to look at it," he said.

Drilon said the issue would be discussed by parliamentarians from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations-Plus Three Group (Japan, China and South Korea) tomorrow morning prior to the conference opening.

"This is not an official IPU activity, but an activity that the Asean parliamentarians will undertake as a follow-up to [their] meeting in Singapore in November 2004," he said.

Burma is not sending a delegation to the assembly. But according to The Associated Press, four members of Burma's abolished parliament, now living in exile, will testify tomorrow on conditions in their homeland before an IPU committee.

The conflicts between China and Taiwan and between South and North Korea are also not on the agenda but parliamentarians can raise these issues during the debates, officials said.

"During debates, each parliamentarian can raise issues, and these will be debated," Verdugo said.

"We know discussions will lead to resolutions down the road," added IPU secretary general Anders Johnsson.

The official items on the agenda include HIV/AIDS, the debt problem and Millennium Development Goals, international policies on the situation of women, war crimes, crimes against humanity, genocide and terrorism, among others.

"AIDS claims the lives of many people just as terror attacks do," Verdugo said, adding:

"We'll also be dealing with crimes against humanity, justice without frontiers. Criminals will be brought before justice."

'I feel secure'

Daily security meetings between the conference organizers and top officials of the Philippine National Police will continue until today.

But Swedish parliamentarian Bernt Ekholm said he and the other delegates were not too bothered by security threats and were looking forward to "sightseeing."

"We have heard about [the security threats] but ... I feel secure. I mean, anything can happen anywhere," said Ekholm, who heads the Swedish delegation. "I expect Filipino authorities to do what they can about security. I've heard that we could be a target, but the Easter [celebration was supposedly a] target and [nothing happened]."

Ekholm said he and his fellow Swedes were "not really expecting any trouble."

"But you never know... We haven't started the conference yet, so it's a little too early to talk about it," he said.

Annika Markovic, Sweden's ambassador to the Philippines, also said security threats had not figured prominently in her talks with her visiting countrymen.

"We haven't really discussed it. But I would assume that they would react the same way as you and I would. If you believe that you are in danger, you get scared and you try to react accordingly," she said.

For the world

Markovic and Ekholm spoke with reporters after a dialogue between Sweden's delegation and Philippine lawmakers at the House of Representatives yesterday morning.

Ekholm expressed hope that the IPU assembly would be a success for the international community.

"This is not a conference of the Philippines, it is a conference for the world," he said.

He also said he and his colleagues would spend two days sightseeing outside Metro Manila.

Study visits

Markovic said the delegates would visit the Subic free port, the former US naval base in Olongapo, Zambales.

She said they had earlier visited Fort Bonifacio, a children's home in Malate, Manila, and upscale Makati. Visits to Chinatown in Binondo, Manila, the "Walled City" of Intramuros and its Light and Sound Museum, and Smokey Mountain, the garbage dump turned housing area for the poor, are also scheduled.

"These are study visits. They want to study the situation in the Philippines to know its problems and possibilities," Markovic said.

Airport security

The Ninoy Aquino International Airport is employing both overt and covert security as part of the preparations for the IPU conference.

"Normally, we don't do overt security operations. But this time, the security posture [shown] will serve as a deterrent. We also want to assure the public that we are ready," Chief Supt. Andres Caro, chief of the PNP's Aviation Security Group, said in a phone interview.

Caro also heads the sub-task group Paliparan, which is in charge of securing the IPU delegates at the Naia.

Black-clad members of the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team conspicuously roamed the Naia premises, including the arrival area, armed with high-powered weapons.

Bomb-sniffing dogs also made frequent inspections of the baggage conveyor area and the Dignitaries' Lounge.

Caro defended the security measures, particularly the presence of the SWAT teams.

"Overt security is allowed even in other countries. There are even assault teams at airports. It has become a standard security measure," he said.

The INQUIRER observed that while the SWAT teams roamed the arrival lobby shortly after noon, they were out of sight during the peak passenger arrival hours later in the day.

In a separate interview, Col. Francisco Dino, manager of the Airport Police Department, said the SWAT teams became highly visible yesterday when most of the IPU delegates arrived.

The crack force from the National Capital Region Police Office will remain posted at the Naia until the IPU delegates leave Manila after the conference.

"We just want to be sure that nothing will happen to them," Dino said.

No guns

IPU delegates may bring in their personal bodyguards, but not their firearms.

"We will not allow them to bring guns to the venue of assembly," PNP Director General Arturo Lomibao said, adding that the firearms would have to be deposited with the Aviation Security Group.

"In other countries, it is also being done. This is out of respect for the integrity and laws of the Philippines, and the capability of our security forces," he said.

The PNP is deploying as many as 15,000 policemen, soldiers and Coast Guard personnel in Metro Manila and places that the delegates are expected to visit.

Lomibao said a single untoward incident, not necessarily a terrorist attack, could become a source of embarrassment.

Embarrassing

"If they slipped, or bumped into something, or lost their valuables, they'll talk about it at home—and that would embarrass us," he said.

So would a delegate losing his/her mobile phone to a thief or falling prey to a con man, quipped Senior Supt. Leopoldo Bataoil, PNP spokesperson.

Lomibao said that because the PNP would not provide "personal security" to the delegates, they were being discouraged from going out individually or in groups without informing the police.

"This is to [prevent] any accident [from happening] or any harm from being inflicted on them," he said.

Lomibao also said he inspected the PICC the other night, and was satisfied with what he saw. *With reports from Nikko Dizon and Luige A. del Puerto*

IN THE KNOW

THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY Union is the premier international organization of parliaments of sovereign states, of which the Philippines is an active member.

Often also called the United Nations of Parliaments, it was the first permanent forum for political multilateral negotiations.

It promoted the establishment of corresponding institutions at the inter-governmental level, which eventually came into being as the United Nations. The IPU was also instrumental in setting up what is now the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague.

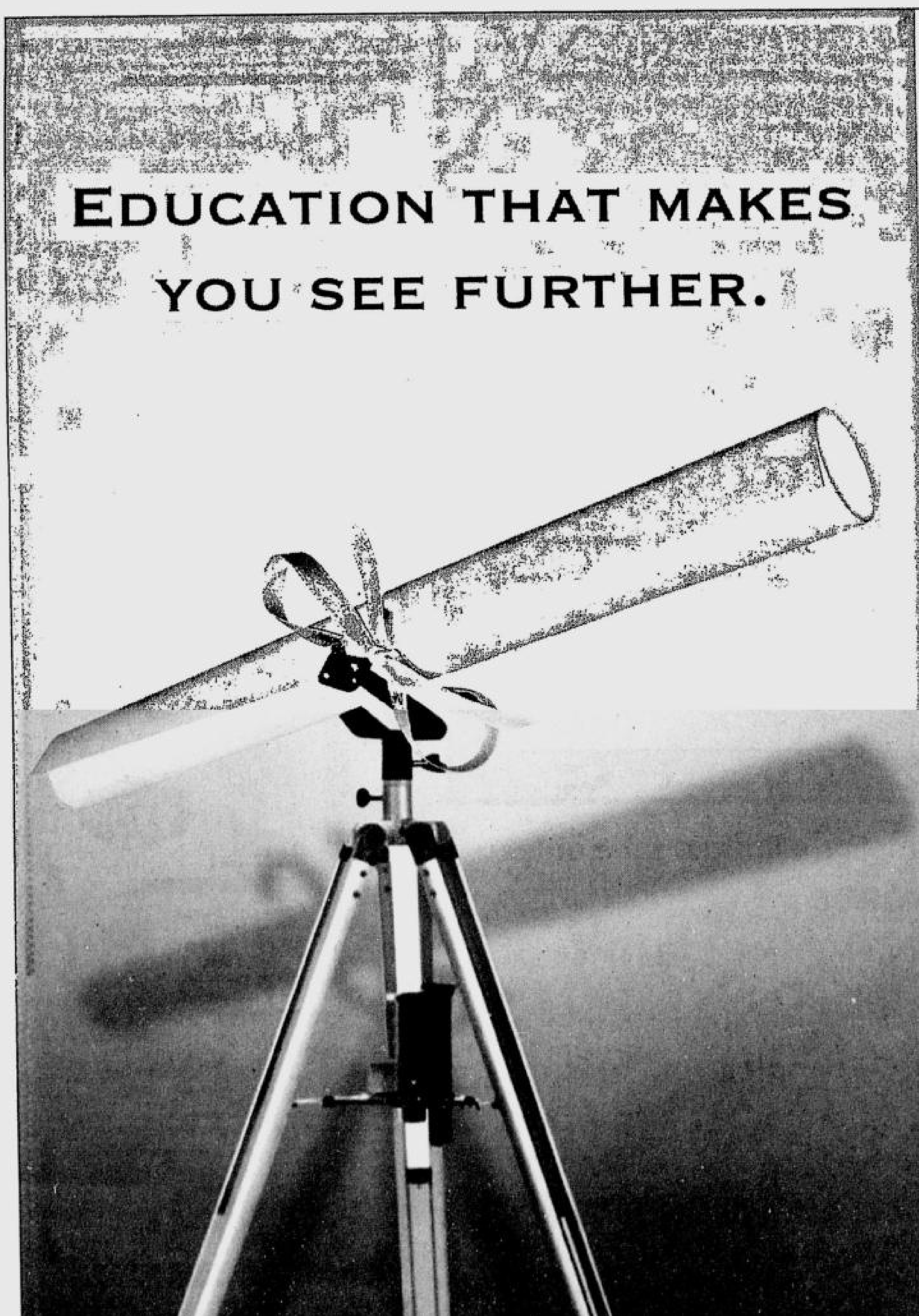
As a focal point for worldwide parliamentary dialogue, it continues to address issues of global importance and presents an alternative venue for airing the concerns of member-countries.

The IPU's 111th assembly held in Geneva on Sept. 28-Oct. 1, 2004, discussed new security challenges (specifically the role of parliaments in strengthening multilateral efforts for the nonproliferation of weapons and disarmament) and preserving biodiversity.

Also discussed as an emergency item was the situation in Iraq and the need for parliamentary action to contribute to restoring peace and security in that country.

The IPU, with headquarters in Geneva, is financed by its members out of public funds.

PDI Research



Searching for a world-class education? Looking for a school that would take you places? Well, look no more. Because at Mapúa, we've set our sights on serving the country and the world.

Proudly, efforts are being exerted for Mapúa to be the first engineering school to gain US recognition by complying with standards set by ABET (Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology). Aside from international certifications in engineering and information technology, Mapúa also offers first-class curriculum in psychology, accountancy, nursing and business administration, sure to take students to greener pastures.

Along with interdisciplinary excellence and global recognition, developments are also underway for Mapúa to achieve university status – at par with the country's leading universities.

Definitely, we at Mapúa believe in preparing students for future opportunities – even those they haven't seen yet. So come to Mapúa. See a horizon full of possibilities, and your rightful place in it.

Mapúa Intramuros

Programs Offered: Bachelor of Science
Architecture • Biotechnology • Chemical Engineering • Chemistry • Civil Engineering • Computer Engineering • Electrical Engineering • Electronics & Communications Engineering • Engineering Management • Environmental & Sanitary Engineering • Geological Engineering • Industrial Design • Industrial Engineering • Interior Architecture Design • Materials Science & Engineering • Mechanical Engineering • Project Construction Management

New Programs Offered:
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology • Bachelor of Science in Psychology

Mapúa Makati

Programs Offered: Bachelor of Science
Computer Science • Information Management • Information Technology • Nursing

New Programs Offered: Bachelor of Science
Accountancy • Business Administration

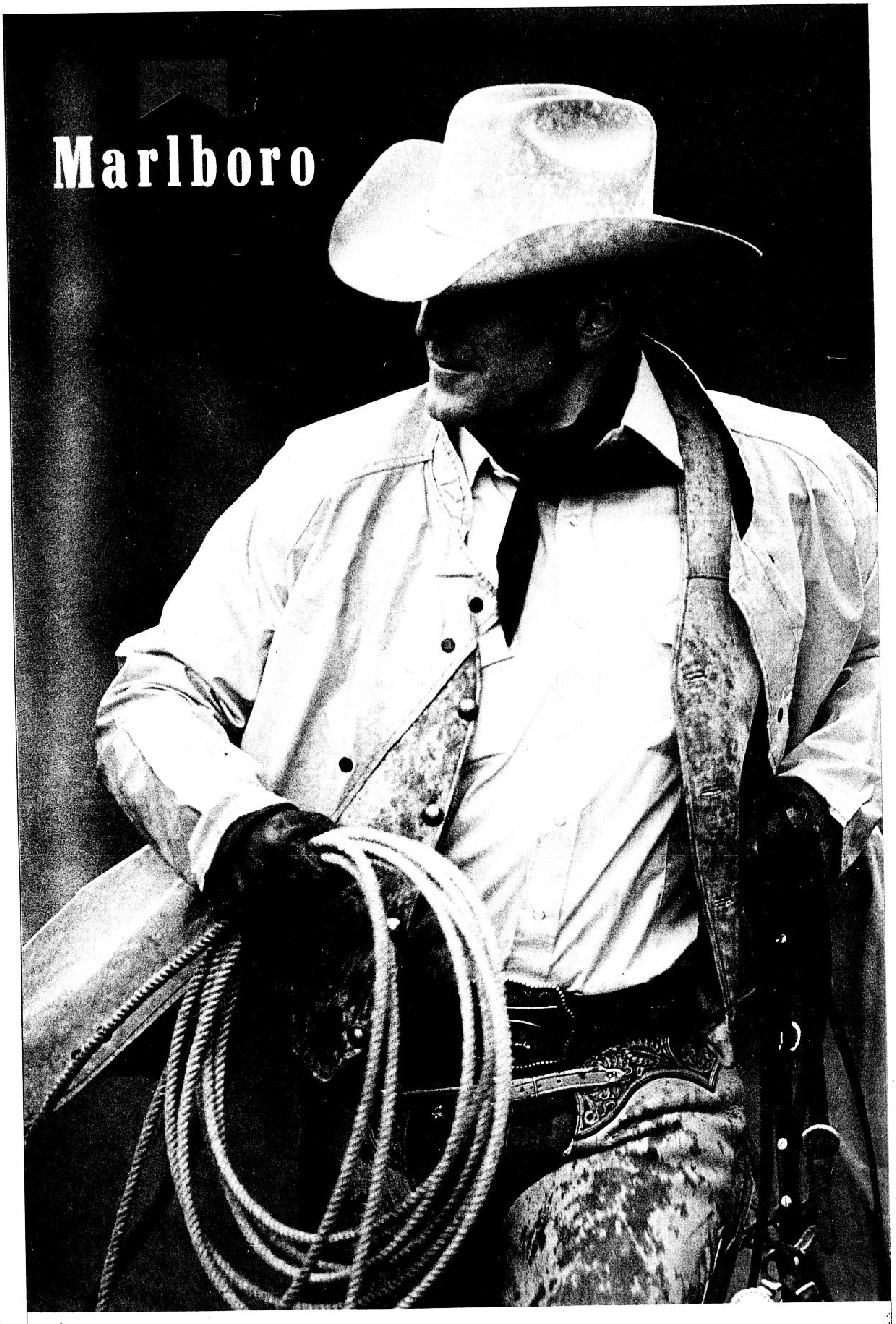
For inquiries on admission, please call (02) 524-5570 / (02) 247-5000 (Intramuros), (02) 891-0754 (Makati) or email us at admissions@mapua.edu.ph You can also visit us at www.mapua.edu.ph

80th Year
Celebrating Global Excellence

MAPÚA
INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
A YGC Member

Malayan Insurance Co., Inc. • RCBC • Grepalife • Lifetime Plans, Inc. • House of Investments, Inc. • Bankard, Inc. • AY Foundation, Inc. • Honda Cars Quezon City, Manila, Kalookan • Isuzu Manila • EEI Corporation • Mapua Institute of Technology and 21 other companies as one to better serve our customers.
www.ygc.com.ph

YGC Yuchengco Group of Companies
TOGETHER WE CAN DO MORE FOR YOU.



Government Warning: Cigarette smoking is dangerous to your health

US intelligence dead wrong on Iraq, says report

From page A1

fered a damning assessment of the intelligence that President George W. Bush had used to launch the Iraq war two years ago, and warned that flaws were "still all too common" throughout spy agencies.

"We conclude that the intelligence community was dead wrong in almost all of its prewar judgments about Iraq's weapons of mass destruction," the commissioners wrote.

At a time when the United States is accusing Iran of nuclear ambitions and pressuring North Korea on its nuclear programs, the report said: "Across the board, the intelligence community knows disturbingly little about the nuclear programs of many of the world's most dangerous actors."

The commission called for a broad overhaul in the intelligence community to increase sharing among 15 agencies and foster dissenting views. The panel, appointed in response to intelligence failures in Iraq, was led by appeals court Judge Laurence Silberman and former Virginia Democratic Sen. Charles Robb.

Cold War-mindset

The US intelligence community was mired in a Cold War-mindset, Robb told a news conference. "They're still, in some respects, fighting the last war," he said.

Bush said he agreed that fundamental change is needed and vowed to "correct what needs to be fixed." He directed White House homeland security adviser Fran Townsend to lead a review of the findings over 90 days and oversee corrections.

"Our collection and analysis of intelligence will never be perfect, but in an age where our margin for error is getting smaller, in an age in which we are at war, the consequences of underestimating a threat could be tens of thousands of innocent lives," Bush said.

Democrats said previous calls for intelligence reform have not borne fruit and hoped this one will.

"It concerns me that many of the commission's recommendations have been made before, but the president failed to act," said Oregon Democratic Sen. Ron Wyden, a member of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence.

Turf battles

The report warned that John Negroponte, nominated to be the new director of national intelligence, faces turf battles with the CIA and Defense Department, which it called some of the government's "most headstrong agencies," and predicted "they will try to run around—or over" him.

CIA director Porter Goss vowed to work with Negroponte to quickly make needed changes. "We need more robust collection and rigorous analysis," he said.

The commission sent Bush a separate letter criticizing overhaul plans at the CIA and the FBI, saying "these agencies remain too comfortable with a 'business as usual' approach to intelligence gathering." Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney, accused by critics of hyping the intelligence on Iraq to pursue a costly war with a deadly aftermath, escaped direct blame.

Senate probe urged

"The analysts who worked Iraqi weapons issues universally agreed that in no instance did political pressure cause them to skew or alter any of their analytical judgments," the report said.

But the report added: "It is hard to deny the conclusion that intelligence analysts worked in an environment that did not encourage skepticism about the conventional wisdom."

Robb said the commission opened a confidential line to invite allegations of political pressure and to date had received none that panned out.

Senate Democratic leader Harry Reid of Nevada urged the Senate intelligence committee to investigate whether Bush administration officials misused intelligence.

Iran, N. Korea problems

A chapter in the report on alleged nuclear weapons programs in Iran and North Korea was classified and not released publicly.

Sources familiar with that section said it was among the most critical, finding US intelligence on Iran's nuclear program particularly inadequate.

The 600-page report sharply criticized the CIA, Defense Intelligence Agency and other agencies for producing "worthless or misleading" intelligence on Iraq before a war fought over claims that Saddam Hussein possessed weapons of mass destruction, none of which was found.

CIA chief hit

In what amounted to a direct assault on George Tenet, who was CIA director before the Iraq war and gave the president his daily intelligence briefing, the commission found that "the daily reports sent to the president and senior policymakers discussing Iraq over many months proved to be disastrously one-sided."

Tenet said in his defense that "American intelligence was nearly in [a] Chapter 11" bankruptcy by the mid-to-late 1990s, and that he had implemented a rebuilding program that was still in progress as the Iraq threat was examined.

The commission recommended the creation of a national counterproliferation center to combat the spread of weapons of mass destruction and a separate National Security Service within the FBI. *Reuters*

2005 Visit the biggest exhibit ever!
Canton Spring Trade Fair
US$488
April 15-30, 2005
Via CATHAY PACIFIC (CX)
Your one-stop shop of China's products.
Tour package includes airfare, hotel, meals, transfer and trade fair VIP passes.
Ranging from electronics, appliances, toys, food, RTW, bags and footwear, medicine, office supplies, packaging, hardware, chemicals, machineries and many more.
Airsealand Tours (Phils.)
820-A Remedios St., Malate, Manila
• Tel. nos.: 526-9971 to 72, 536-2708
• Telefax no.: 526-9974
• Cell no.: 0917-8865764 / 0917-7414446

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANILA
UM SINCE 1913
546 DR. MARIANO V. DE LOS SANTOS SR. STREET
SAMPALOC, MANILA
Tel # 7355084 • 7355085 • 7355098 • 7355094
Fax # 7355089 • 5218773
Website: www.univman.edu.ph E-Mail: um@univman.edu.ph

SUMMER 2005 ENROLLMENT GOING ON
FOR THE DIFFERENT COLLEGES: GRADUATE SCHOOL, FOREIGN SERVICE, HOTEL AND RESTAURANT MANAGEMENT, ENGINEERING, COMPUTER SCIENCE, EDUCATION, CRIMINOLOGY, LIBERAL ARTS, BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, ACCOUNTANCY AND HIGH SCHOOL
CLASSES START: APRIL 04, 2005

REGULAR PRE-BAR REVIEW 2005
REVIEW FEE: P 8,500 only
(Saturday & Sunday Classes Only)
April 23 to August 21, 2005

SUBJECTS	REVIEWERS
REMEDIAL LAW.	: Justice Nicolas Lapeña, Jr. : Justice Ricardo Galvez : Justice Lucas Bersamin : Judge Pedro Laggui : Judge Ma. Cristina Cornejo : Dean Michael Moralde : Fiscal Danilo Formoso
CIVIL LAW	: Justice Amelita Tolentino : Dean Eduardo Abella : Dean Michael Moralde : Dean Augusto Aligada
MERCANTILE LAW	: Justice Japar Dimaampao : Dean Eduardo Abella : Dean Joe-Santos Bisquera : Prof. Nicanor Padilla, Jr.
POLITICAL LAW	: Justice Oswaldo Agcaoile : Prof. Edwin Sandoval : Prof. Jacinto Jimenez : Prof. Nicanor Padilla, Jr.
CRIMINAL LAW	: Justice Rodolfo Palattao : Judge Pedro Laggui : Judge Ma. Cristina Cornejo : Dean Carlos Ortega : Fiscal Danilo Formoso
TAXATION LAW	: Justice Japar Dimaampao : Dean Joe-Santos Bisquera : Prof. Nicasio Cabaneiro
LABOR LAW	: Prof. Oswald Lorenzo : Prof. Salvador Poquiz
LEGAL ETHICS	: Justice Nicolas Lapeña Jr. : Dean Prudencio Valencia
PRIVATE INT'L LAW	: Justice Jorge Coquia : Dean Prudencio Valencia
PRACTICAL EXERCISES	: Dean Eduardo Abella
LAND TITLES & DEEDS	: Dir. Ramon Cassanova
BAR METHODS & TECHNIQUES	: Prof. Arlene Maneja

REVIEW COURSES:
CPA BOARD REVIEW
CRIMINOLOGY BOARD REVIEW
CIVIL ENGINEERING REFRESHER COURSE
TEACHERS' BOARD REVIEW (LET)

Special session not special for Senate . . .

From page A1

As the hours ticked away on the three-day special session last night, Drilon ruled out the option of using the legislative trick of "stopping the clock" to approve the tax measure.

Stopping the clock

"I am not in favor of stopping the clock in order to finish the amendments until 3 or 4 [a.m.]," he told reporters. "The best thing to do is to be patient about this. Assuming we don't finish it tonight, we'll take it up and work on it on April 11. And we'll just estimate that about a week from then, we'll make substantial progress."

Drilon also objected to President Macapagal-Arroyo's plan to call another special session if this one failed, saying the Senate would be busy hosting the 112th assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union on April 3-8. *(See story on Page A1.)*

Even Gabriel Claudio, Ms Arroyo's political adviser, seemed resigned to the closing of the special session without the VAT bill being approved.

"If they cannot finish it tonight, at least the special session gained time for the passage of the bill, and it helped the senators clarify a lot of issues," Claudio told reporters when the session was suspended before 7 p.m.

He said Ms Arroyo would understand why the measure was not passed.

"I think she can see that the senators are in earnest about understanding the complex issues about the VAT bill, and are very cooperative," he said.

No rush

Drilon, who had earlier been optimistic of the bill's passage at the end of the special session, said he would not want to rush the amendments. He also said he wanted all the other senators to be present when voting time came.

He also said rushing the approval just to meet the President's deadline would have far adverse implications than just waiting for the regular session.

"I don't think the two-week delay will cause the economy to collapse. On the other hand, rushing it tonight can have long-term implications that can harm both the need for revenues and the need to cushion the impact on our taxpayers," Drilon said.

Senators Juan Flavier, Aquilino Pimentel Jr. and Serge Osmeña also ruled out the passage of the measure last night.

"I doubt that, unless a miracle happens. We can do this in the regular session," said Senate President Pro-Tempore Flavier.

"The most realistic scenario is, we will go to the regular session," Osmeña said, adding that the VAT bill would be approved only if the senators were convinced it was good.

Drilon's optimism vanished just before Sen. Jamby Madrigal took her turn at interpellation, aided with a projector that she had gained notoriety for using in the "sin" taxes debate.

At past 6 p.m., Madrigal and Recto were still locked in a debate over the recommendation to subject power and petroleum products to the VAT, among other provisions.

'VAT fixation'

Senate Minority Leader Pimentel criticized Ms Arroyo for her alleged "VAT fixation" and her statement that she would keep on calling a special session until the bill was passed.

"She is a rare bird among humans: a masochist enjoying self-inflicted pain and a sadist enjoying inflicting pain on others at the same time," Pimentel said.

Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago, who had earlier admitted that she was invited by the President to dinner for a pep talk on VAT, said she was confident that the latter would not call another session.

Drilon said dinners with the President would help because then the senators would have an insight on where she stood on the measure. He said he had not been invited to dinner by Ms Arroyo.

Power to tax

Saying that the power to tax lay with Congress, House Minority Leader Francis Escudero yesterday rejected Santiago's proposal to retain the current 10-percent VAT but give Malacañang the option to raise it to 12 percent under certain conditions.

He told reporters this would be tantamount to giving the President the power to tax.

"That is not allowed under the Constitution because the power to tax is expressly reserved as a power that can only be exercised by Congress," said the opposition lawmaker. "Secondly, it might constitute an undue delegation of legislative power, which is unconstitutional and an abdication or abandonment on the part of Congress of its powers."

Escudero, a lawyer, said that strictly speaking, all proposed tax measures should emanate from the House, "which is truly representative of the people," and the Senate could only modify or reject tax bills.

Santiago had said that during her dinner with Ms Arroyo, the latter was upbeat about the proposal "as long as [the bill] is passed by Congress."

Best option

But Escudero said that such a *modus vivendi* could be questioned at the Supreme Court on grounds that it was an undue delegation of legislative power.

He said the best option was to further study the measure rather than railroad its passage during the special session. *With a report from Michael Lim Ubac*

COPIERS Sales/Rentals
RICOH • Canon • Olivetti • Savin
Also Available : LIQUID COPIERS
P15,000. ONLY POWDER TYPE FT 3320 15 CPM
BRAND NEW! RICOH FT 3813 BEST FOR BUSINESS P49,900. ONLY
BRAND NEW CANON FC 290 FOR PERSONAL USE P15,000. ONLY
RECON FULL COLOR DIGITAL COPIER P15,000. ONLY
PARTS & SUPPLIES AVAILABLE FOR MOST COPIER BRANDS!
COPYTRADE®
Copytrade Bldg. 550 MF Jhocson St. Sampaloc, Manila (Beside Nat'l Univ.)
Tels. 749-8155 to 56
781-3472 • 749-8216
www.copytrade.com.ph
• RINGBINDERS • LAMINATORS
• CUTTERS • BLUEPRINT • RISO
• FAX MACHINES, ETC.
• ACCEPT COPIER RENTALS FOR SHORT EVENTS
• BUY/TRADE-IN OLD COPIERS

CHINA SUPER VALUE HIGHLIGHTS
BUY NOW!
THE HOTTEST CHINA TRAVEL DEALS ON
Philippine Airlines Air Philippines

6D/5N Shenzhen-Shanghai-Beijing FULL BOARD	TUE-SUN	$299
5D/4N Shenzhen-Guangzhou-Macau	TUE-SAT	$139
5D/4N Shenzhen-Beijing FULL BOARD	TUE-SAT	$329
5D/4N Shanghai-Xian FULL BOARD	TUE-SAT	$399
3D/2N Hong Kong-Shenzhen	THU-SAT	$179
4D/3N Shenzhen-Hong Kong	SAT-TUE	$169
4D/3N Shenzhen-Shanghai FULL BOARD	SAT-TUE	$289
4D/3N Hong Kong-Shenzhen	SAT-TUE	$189
4D/3N Shenzhen (3N) with Windows of the World	SAT-TUE	$169

FOR INQUIRIES AND RESERVATIONS, CALL:
YOYO HOLIDAYS • (02) 302.0720/17/22
WINLINK TRAVEL • (02) 522.7738 / 525.6306 / 404.1249
SKYNET TRAVEL CORP. • (02) 521.7596-98 / 400.0509-10
TRANSNATIONAL TRAVEL • (02) 753.3388 / 533.7731 / 431.4629
UNION TRAVEL • (02) 524.3943-44 / 525.3034/45

Only the best are imitated.
For the best parts and finest sounds in the industry, look for the authentic Konzert logo on the latest models of amplifiers, speakers, equalizers and receivers.
Konzert, our quality is one-of-a-kind.
AV-502A
AV-633 AV-301 AV-302 K-250
Available in Downtown Raon and Evangelista stores.
Konzert Hotline: 852-0031 e-mail us at mgme@compass.com.ph
KONZERT® AUDIO VIDEO TECHNOLOGY

Asian furniture & Home Accents
OUR BIGGEST SALE OF THE YEAR
ORIENTIQUE'S
5th Anniversary Sale
ALL AT 50% OFF
March 10-April 10,2005
We specialize in aged and dark teakwood furniture(antique & new) from Indonesia & India.Elm wood from China.Made to order Javanese and balinese doors.Sofas,tables, cabinets,chairs, accent pieces & Garden furniture. Persian and Oriental Carpets and Rugs.
Mandaluyong:No. 7 Pines St. (Cor Sheridan St) Tel: 7466830 / 839
Alabang: 304Home precinct, FilinvestAve, West Gate Tel: 7711062
Per dti-ncr permit no1375 Series of 2005

Sinos using RP as transit point nabbed at Naia

By Leila B. Salaverria

FIVE CHINESE nationals who were allegedly using the Philippines as a jump-off point to illegally enter other countries have been arrested and are set to be deported by the Bureau of Immigration.

The Chinese nationals, who arrived in Manila as tourists, were intercepted at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport on separate occasions and caught with fake travel documents, said BI Commissioner Alipio Fernandez Jr.

Fernandez said the foreigners were most likely victims of a human trafficking syndicate who attempted to use the Philippines as a jump-off point for their illegal activities.

"These syndicates must realize that the Philippines is no longer an ideal base for human trafficking operations because our immigration officers are now experts in detecting fraudulent travel documents," Fernandez said, adding that he would order the stricter implementation of the BI's anti-human trafficking drive.

The BI's Board of Commissioners ordered the deportation of the five foreigners to China. They were also placed on the immigration blacklist and are barred from reentering the Philippines.

Two of the five Chinese nationals were arrested at the Naia on March 12 after they were caught with fake Portuguese passports. The two were identified as Ren Gui Long and Li Wen Qing.

Six days later, Jiang Xiang Cheng, who was bound for Australia, was caught carrying a fake Singaporean passport.

On March 22, Wang She Juen and Lin Fang were nabbed as they were about to board a Philippine Airlines flight to Canada.

RP forces hunting Malaysians' abductors

NAVAL forces are scouring the waters around the Tawi-Tawi island in search of the three crew members of a Malaysian tugboat who were abducted by armed men in Malaysian waters Wednesday.

Navy spokesperson Capt. Geronimo Malabanan said a joint Navy-Marine team under Naval Task Force 62 commander Capt. Arnel Gonzales is continuously patrolling the waters around the islands of Sibuto and Sitangkai to look for the kidnapped crew members of the Bonggaya 91.

"A total of four naval assets are now in the area. They are also inspecting all boats in the vicinity," Malabanan said.

He said a ship belonging to Naval Task Force Stingray, the sea-based antiterror and kidnapping task force of the Navy is participating in the patrols.

On Wednesday, Malaysian police reported that five heavily armed pirates had attacked a Malaysian tugboat in the Sulawesi Sea, close to Philippine waters.

The pirates kidnapped the captain and two crew members, all of whom were Indonesians.

The boat was on its way back to Sandakan in Sabah from Indonesia when it was attacked.

The abductors, who also seized the boat's radio communication set and mobile phones, reportedly fled in the direction of Tawi-Tawi.

Dona Z. Pazzibugan

Filipino soldier survives sniper attack in Haiti

By Volt Contreras

A MEMBER of the Filipino peacekeeping force in Haiti survived a sniper attack on Thursday while guarding a hotel in the capital of Port-au-Prince, the Department of Foreign Affairs said yesterday.

Marine Staff Sgt. Rodrigo Galam was shot twice by an unidentified assailant but sustained no injuries thanks to his kevlar helmet and armored vest, the DFA said, quoting reports from the Philippine mission to the United Nations.

It was the first attack on a Filipino soldier in Haiti since Manila sent 135 troops to the troubled Caribbean country in December 2004 in support of United Nations peacekeeping efforts following the ouster of Haiti President Jean Bertrand Aristide in February last year.

Made up of around 7,500 troops from 41 countries, the UN force had since set out to disarm local gangs and former soldiers that were deemed threats to Haiti's stability.

Four peacekeepers—two Sri Lankans and two Nepalese—have been killed in the past two weeks since the UN intensified its campaign against the armed groups ahead of local and national elections scheduled later this year.

Galam was shot while on guard duty outside the Christopher Hotel, the future site of the headquarters of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (Minustah), at around 5 a.m. on March 31 (Thursday night in Manila). Two .30-cal. bullets failed to pierce his protective vest and helmet.

"Sergeant Galam is one lucky guy," said Ambassador Lauro Baja, Philippine permanent representative to the UN, in his report to the DFA from New York.

Baja said the attack "highlighted the dangers" faced by the Filipino soldiers but would not affect the Philippine commitment to the peacekeeping effort in Haiti.

Apart from sending troops under the UN flag, Manila also dispatched a 10-man police team to the strife-torn nation.

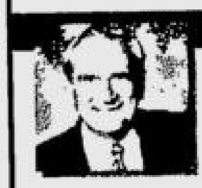
Filipino peacekeepers are to remain at their posts in Haiti despite increasing sniper attacks on UN units in recent weeks, Philippine officials said.

The DFA said foreign UN peacekeepers had been subjected to small arms sniper fire while on patrol in and around the capital after they adopted a more robust posture against the armed Haitian gangs and former soldiers. *With an AFP report*

TAGAYTAY EXECUTIVE VILLAGE
A minute drive to ROTUNDA / at the back of McDONALDS and OLIVAREZ PLAZA
Own a lot for as low as P11,528/mo.
*NO DOWN PAYMENT SCHEME also available
HLURB License to Sell No.: Phase 1:05609-R4-02-09 / Phase 2: 07256-R4A-03-04
CITYLAND LEADING CONDOMINIUM DEVELOPER (Presidential Awardee)
812-2222 • 243-6565 • 818-8888 • 241-1894 • (0919) 310-8553
www.cityland.net • investment@cityland.net

ANG RABIS MABANGIS
Iwasang mamatay sa rabis. Kapag nakagat ng aso o pusa, tumawag agad sa ABC Emergency Hotline 816-1111 o magtungo agad sa Animal Bite Center.
ABC Animal Bite Center
EMERGENCY HOTLINE 816-1111
DepED Aventis Pasteur sanofi aventis

BILLY GRAHAM EVANGELISTIC ASSOCIATION
METRO MANILA FRANKLIN GRAHAM FESTIVAL presents
Christian Executive Leadership Seminar
'Making a Lasting Impact'
April 15, 2005 (Friday)
8:30 AM to 5:30 PM
MAKATI SHANGRI-LA HOTEL
RIZAL BALLROOM
Ayala Ave., Makati City
REGISTRATION FEE
P1,500 on or before April 10, 2005
P1,800 April 11, 2005 onwards
His Presence in the Workplace Conference
'The Church at Work'
April 16, 2005 (Saturday)
8:30 AM to 2:30 PM
WORD OF HOPE
1103 EDSA, Quezon City
(across SM City Annex)
REGISTRATION FEE: P200.
Limited Seats. No Payment, No Reservation.
Speakers:
MR. DON SODERQUIST
former Sr. Vice Chairman & COO, overseen growth of WAL-MART from $ 43B to $ 200B
REV. PETER TAN-CHI - Senior Pastor, Christ's Commission Fellowship
DR. ANDREW LIUSON - President, Cityland Development Corp.
MR. FRANCIS KONG - President & CEO, Funworks, Inc.
CONG. BENNY ABANTE - Rep., 6th Dist. of Manila
Check payable to SOWERS OF THE WORD MINISTRIES, Inc.
Deposit at any UCPB Branch (Acct. No. 116-003130-0)
To ensure registration, fax deposit slip to (02) 752-6390
or call (02) 752-1696
www.one4christ.com • bgea@one4christ.com



Come! Celebrate!
Feast of Mercy
Words of our Lord to St. Faustina
"I want this image to be solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter; On that day, the depths of My Mercy will be open to all. Whoever will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on that day will receive complete forgiveness of sin and punishment. Mankind will not enjoy peace until it turns with confidence to My Mercy".
From now on throughout the Church, the second Sunday of Easter will be called DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY. (Pope John Paul II, April 30, 2000).
"A Day of Love, Mercy, Healing and Thanksgiving"
Confession starts at 10am, Holy Mass at 12nn, 3pm & 6pm
Talks, Sharings, Testimonies, Healing & Praising the whole day
Do not be afraid to confess
Join us in celebrating DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY
April 3, 2005, Sunday from 10:00 am to 8:00pm
EDSA CENTRAL MALL, EDSA, Mandaluyong City
ADMISSION IS FREE!
For details, call or visit: DIVINE MERCY CHANNEL
www.divinemercytvchannel.com
Tel. No. 723-7810 : 723-7853 Mobile No: (0920) 752-1060
* * * KEEP THE 3 O'CLOCK HABIT * * *

Reviewing for the bar?
Seize the Arellano advantage!
Political Law
Cong. Antonio B. Nachura
Dean Mariano F. Magsalin, Jr.
Prof. Edwin Sandoval
Prof. Jeremy Gatdula
Labor Law
Prof. Oswald Lorenzo
Prof. Salvador Poquiz
Prof. Joselito Guianan Chan
Civil Law
Dean Ed Vincent Albano
Dean Domingo Navarro
Taxation Law
Prof. Edwin Abella
Prof. Francis Sababan
Prof. Nicasio Cabaniero
Commercial Law
Dean Jose Sundiang
Dean Eduardo J.F. Abella
Prof. Gafar Lutian
Criminal Law
Judge Mario Lopez
Judge Oscar Pimentel
Judge Rustico Panganiban
Pros. Nelson Salva
Remedial Law
Dean Virgilio Jara
Dean Willard Riano
Prof. Henedino Brondial
Prof. Charles Escolin
Legal Ethics
Usec. Ernesto Pineda
Prof. Prudencio Valencia
Enroll in the Arellano Bar Review Program.
Lectures are delivered by the country's best bar reviewers and complemented by Powerpoint presentations. Personalized tutorial classes are held to explain difficult legal questions.
We distribute in printed and/or digital form course outlines for the 8 bar subjects, frequently asked bar questions, doctrinal rulings and digests of the latest jurisprudence.
Review classes are held on Friday afternoons, Saturdays & Sundays. We conveniently offer in-campus housing & a spacious well-stocked library. Coffee is free-flowing.
So, where else can you find this kind of advantage?
Review classes start on April 8, 2005
For Inquiries, call (632)404-3089 to 93
Taft Avenue corner Menlo Street, Pasay City, Metro Manila, Philippines • http://www.arellanolaw.edu

Bulacan's Next Centerpoint
PRIME RESIDENTIAL LOTS FOR SALE!
LaMirada ROYALE
Plaridel, Bulacan
Avail Of Our Easy Payment Schemes of up to 10 Years to Pay!
Map to the site
DEVELOPER S.TA. LUCIA Realty & Development, Inc.
EXCLUSIVE MARKETING NETWORK ROYALE HOMES MARKETING CORPORATION
CONTACT US:
Tel. Nos.: (02)723-4014 & 724-7107
Text us: la mirada_(your name)_ cellphone number and send to 2960
www.royalehomes.com.ph

The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

Residents flee 'doomed' quake-hit island

GUNUNG SITOLI, Indonesia—Hungry, frightened and stricken with grief, hundreds of people Friday packed onto the greasy wharves of the quake-hit city of Gunung Sitoli, willing to risk a dangerous boat ride to escape an island they now believe is doomed to disaster.

Paying premium prices for tickets on a rickety wooden boat that will ply churning seas for 12 hours to reach the mainland Sumatra port of Sibolga, many people have spent the night on the squalid dock on Indonesia's Nias island, huddled against steady rain.

But with the trauma of the latest magnitude-8.7 quake and last year's deadly tsunami still fresh on their minds, the gamble of navigating perilous oceans is preferable to waiting for what many believe is an inevitable third disaster.

"I don't ask much from the Lord, but I need to leave Nias because the situation is no longer safe, and it's not healthy for my grandchildren," said Saulina Damanik, who was traveling with 14 relatives to the mainland.

The 64-year-old and her relatives, who had been waiting on the garbage-strewn pier since the night before, have all paid 25,000 rupiah (almost $3) for their boat tickets. A paltry figure, but equivalent to a day's wages for many impoverished Indonesians.

Looking tired and sobbing constantly, Damanik said she did not care that her home had been damaged by Monday's quake, but was upset that her daughter had chosen to risk future earthquakes and remain on the island.

"I am very sad because one of my daughters decided not to leave Nias because her husband wants to stay here. If it was just my property, I wouldn't mind, but I want my whole family to be together," she said.

Marian Amri, a 26-year-old mother of three, among the 200 waiting at the bustling port, said she had been living with thousands of people in Nias camped in the hills, fearing another disaster.

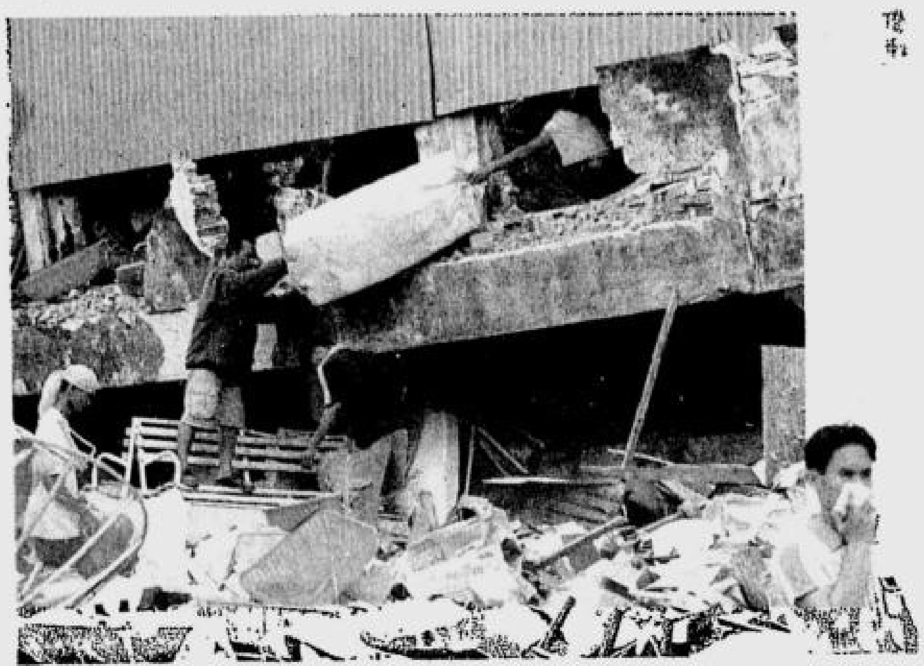
"It's difficult to find water, difficult to eat. I had to seek refuge in the hills for two nights," she said.

While some survivors lost their homes in Monday's quake, many are simply too scared to return to the lowland city. Scientists have warned that a powerful quake or aftershock may strike again, fuelling panic on Nias.

"The situation here is uncertain, that's why I'm leaving, and also because I'm still traumatized with the earthquake and tsunami because there are rumors there will be a powerful aftershock over the next few days," said Amri.

Ethnic Chinese rubber trader Ayung Susano also saw no future in remaining on the island as the situation had become too desperate, with anxieties over another catastrophe compounded by hunger and despair.

Susano's office and home were destroyed by the quake, which killed two of his employees. He said he paid 200,000 rupiah to a gang of 10 people to unearth their bodies from the rubble before packing what little he had and heading for the port. *AFP*



RESIDENTS look for useful items in the debris of a building destroyed in a quake on Nias Island, Indonesia, March 31. A UN official on Friday placed the death toll from Monday's magnitude-8.7 quake which hit the island at 1,300. AP

Maps need to be redrawn in wake of Indonesia quake

JAKARTA—Three months after the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster saw Indonesia's Sumatra island nudged slightly towards Sri Lanka, the latest quake to hit the region has again altered the landscape.

Anecdotal evidence collected from witnesses in the remote islands of Nias and Simeulue, which were close to the epicenter of Monday's 8.7-magnitude quake, points to substantial change on shorelines around the islands.

In some areas, the land has tilted, exposing large tracts of beach that were once below the water line and thrusting coral reefs up into the air, while dipping other low lying coastal areas into the sea.

Photos shot by Brian Williams, an Australian running a surf camp on Simeulue, show a wide strip of white sand in Simuelue's Gusong Bay, which people familiar with the area say was not there before.

"I was there recently. The beach used to be three meters wide, now it's 30 meters wide and reefs that were underwater are now above water," Kirk Wilcox of the surfing goods firm Quicksilver, said.

"The same lifting occurred on the top part of Simeulue island after the first earthquake on Dec. 26, 2004, while the lower part of Simeulue dropped."

The December quake, now measured at 9.3 on the Richter scale, caused major upheaval in the region as two continental plates that collide on a fault line close to Nias and Simeulue crunched against each other. *AFP*

SHIITE worshippers gather for prayer during al-Arbaeen ceremonies in Karbala, Iraq, March 31. The holiday marks the end of a 40-day mourning period for one of the Shiite religion's most important saints, the grandson of Islam's Prophet Muhammad, Imam Hussein, who was killed in a seventh-century battle. AP

Car bomb attacks kill 11 Iraqis

BAGHDAD—Car bomb explosions killed at least 11 Iraqis near Shiite shrines as the community marked a major religious festival, while Sunni leaders feuded over a role in the political process they largely boycotted.

Meanwhile in Washington, an independent presidential panel concluded the US decision to lead an invasion of Iraq two years ago was based on flawed "dead wrong" intelligence.

The latest attacks Thursday hit as politicians tried to break a deadlock over the formation of a new government two months after Iraq's election.

"The government is not even close to being formed," a member of the so-far upbeat Shiite bloc told AFP.

In Samarra, north of Baghdad, seven people were killed when a car bomb exploded in the path of a US-Iraqi patrol, police said, adding that four were civilians. The US military said there were no casualties in its ranks.

The bomb coincided with an armed attack on a police station next to a Shiite shrine in the predominantly Sunni city, police added.

About 17 gunmen in three cars blocked off roads to the center and pounded the station with rocket-propelled grenades, provoking a 10-minute firefight in which a policeman was wounded. *AFP*

Jacko wins 'Most Foolish American' title for third time

LOS ANGELES—Accused pop icon Michael Jackson has been crowned America's most foolish person for the third straight year, snatching the dishonor from the likes of a murderer and US President George W. Bush.

Some 80 percent of 1,030 people who took part in an annual April Fool's Day survey felt that Jackson, on trial for molesting a 13-year-old boy, deserved the top spot on the 2005 list that also featured his bra-popping sister Janet Jackson and convicted domestic diva Martha Stewart.

"It's getting hard to envision an America in which Michael Jackson isn't the most foolish individual," said public relations consultant Jeff Barge, who compiled the sixth "Most Foolish American" survey obtained by AFP.

"Short of a lesbian wedding ceremony for Paris Hilton, it's hard to imagine who could possibly push him out of the No. 1 spot," he added.

Eight out of 10 people polled in the telephone survey felt that the faded "King of Pop" had "done something foolish" in the past year, giving him top spot in the survey for the third time in a row.

In second place on the list of dubious achievements in 2005 was convicted murderer Scott Peterson, sentenced to death this month for killing his eight-month pregnant wife in California. He scores 68 percent of the vote.

Stewart, who was released from jail in early March after serving five months for lying to stock market regulators about a share deal, was third on the list, with 59 percent of those polled feeling she had been foolish.

Some 56 percent of those surveyed felt that Bush was the most foolish American of 2005, putting him fifth on the list, between socialite hotel heiress and reality television star Paris Hilton in fourth spot and Janet Jackson in sixth. *AFP*

Al-Qaida leader Zarqawi driven by emotion, say former cell mates

By Suleiman al-Khalidi

AMMAN—During their years in a Jordanian prison, inmates remember Abu Musab al-Zarqawi in his Afghan dress weeping uncontrollably in the courtyard whenever he knelt to pray.

"Abu Musab cried constantly. He was very emotional, almost like a child," said 35-year-old Yousef Rababaa as he recalled the young militant.

Zarqawi, the Jordanian-born one-time street thug who is now the leader of al Qaida in Iraq, is remembered as a gentle man obsessed with Islam's past glory.

His intense loyalty, his former cell mates say, went hand in hand with a fanatical adherence to his religion.

He dreamed of an Islamic utopia where people would relive the puritanical lifestyle of the faith's early founders.

The Arab Bedouin whose fanaticism condones the killing of fellow Muslims and is blamed by Washington for the beheading of foreign captives and suicide bombings that have maimed and killed hundreds, was a gentle almost stoic figure, his cell mates remember.

They say his ability to mesmerize the closest people around him was another facet of a shadowy illusive character who has so far evaded capture.

Rababaa, who left prison with Zarqawi after an amnesty in April 1999, recollects how Zarqawi stood out among his peers for his piety.

"Abu Musab would be as preoccupied with writing letter after letter to his old mother as spending long hours reciting the Koran," said Rababaa.

It was piety of an extreme nature that molded Zarqawi's militancy, according to Islamists and experts who follow many of the young adherents of the Salafi brand of Islamist jihadis.

"Emotions for militants like Zarqawi shape much of their behavior and mentality and drive them to wreak revenge for perceived injustices without thinking of the consequences," said Mohammed Najjar, a Jordanian scholar who follows radical Islamist political movements.

Another cell mate, Khaled Abu Doma, 36, recalled the young Zarqawi's long days spent kneeling with another inmate on a mat in the prison courtyard as he patiently helped him memorize verse after verse from the Koran.

Zarqawi would also wash other prisoners' clothes and scrub and clean prison lavatories, chores which other prisoners usually shunned, Abu Doma said.

But Zarqawi's commitment to a purist brand of Islam put both Muslim and nonbelievers at odds with his ideology, said Laith Shubailat, a prominent Islamist dissident who spent years in prison for his opposition to Jordan's pro-western monarchy.

Shubailat, an advocate of non-violence and a parliamentary democracy to limit the Jordanian monarchy's extensive powers, recalled that the young militant's view of the world made him reject moderates like him.

"Zarqawi may be more faithful to the tenets of Islam, but he and his followers have gone astray in their search for the truth," Shubailat said as he recollected a morning when Zarqawi invited him for breakfast.

"I was an apostate for them. They have no grey. You have to be white completely. They put difficult conditions," said Shubailat, whose belief in reform from within the establishment made it impossible for him to find common ground with Zarqawi.

Prison inmates and associates say Zarqawi found solace in an austere brand of Islam that gave him spiritual comfort from the social alienation he endured in a deprived upbringing. *Reuters*

Wolfowitz named World Bank chief

WOLFOWITZ REUTERS

WASHINGTON—The World Bank Thursday named Paul Wolfowitz its next president despite misgivings about the deputy US defense secretary's "neoconservative" ideology and enthusiastic promotion of the war in Iraq.

The World Bank board, which is dominated by the United States, Europe and Japan, unanimously agreed on the controversial figure as the successor to James Wolfensohn, 71.

Wolfowitz, 61, a former ambassador to Indonesia and State Department official, vowed to uphold the bank's "noble mission" of eradicating poverty when he replaces Wolfensohn on June 1.

But while campaigners kept up a barrage of objections over his suitability for the post, US President George W. Bush vowed to work with Wolfowitz.

"The president looks forward to working with president-designate Wolfowitz and World Bank member countries to advance the fight against global poverty, promote development and meet the International Development Goals of the Millennium Declaration," said a White House statement.

Wolfowitz said that debt relief for the poorest nations was a pressing issue in his new in-tray, along with a September summit of the United Nations devoted to the so-called Millennium Development Goals.

The UN goals, established in September 2000, aim to slash global poverty in half by 2015, step up the fight against diseases such as AIDS and tuberculosis and increase access to education.

Wolfowitz was the sole candidate to serve as president of the International Monetary Fund's sister institution. By tradition, an American leads the World Bank and a European the IMF. *AFP*

UN approves war crimes trials over Darfur conflict

UNITED NATIONS—The UN Security Council has voted to approve war crime trials over Sudan's Darfur conflict at the International Criminal Court, ending weeks of deadlock over US opposition to the tribunal.

The council voted 11-0 to refer the matter to the ICC late on Thursday, two months after an international inquiry found evidence of war crimes in Sudan's Darfur region, where an estimated 300,000 have died in two years of violence.

The move clears the way for the Hague-based court to prosecute those behind the murder, rape and pillaging in the vast Darfur region, after weeks of tense diplomatic haggling over how to bring the guilty to justice.

Algeria, Brazil and China abstained along with the United States, which is not party to the Hague-based court and could have used its veto power to reject the measure—the first time the council has made an ICC referral.

"It is important that the international community speak with one voice in order to help promote effective accountability," Deputy US Ambassador Anne Patterson said after the vote.

"We decided not to oppose the resolution because of the need for the international community to work together in order to end the climate of impunity in Sudan," she said.

While there was broad agreement about the atrocities in Darfur, the United States resisted any ICC referral while most other council nations were wary of concessions that could undermine the court's legitimacy.

In a day of diplomatic back-and-forth, Washington was able to win changes to the measure, including language saying nations not party to the court, like the United States, would be exempt from prosecution over Sudan.

Resolution No. 1593 also gives those nations "exclusive jurisdiction" over its nationals—meaning, for example, that an American charged with killing the citizen of another country in Sudan could only be tried in American court.

Patterson said Washington "continues to fundamentally object" to the court, where the United States fears could see US nationals targeted by politically motivated lawsuits.

But a US veto would have carried political risk after Washington pushed hard to bring international attention to the Darfur crisis, which it has characterized as a genocide.

Darfur exploded when rebels in the western Sudanese region rose up against the government in February 2003, a rebellion the government put down with the help of proxy militias known as Janjaweed.

A commission of inquiry in January said government forces and militias had committed gross human rights violations, including the killing of civilians, torture, rape and pillaging. Rebel forces may also be guilty, it said. *AFP*

MONACO IN TRANSITION
Monaco's flag hangs in the breeze in front of the Casino of Monte Carlo, March 31, in Monaco. Prince Albert has taken over the regency of Monaco because his ailing father is unable to exercise his royal functions, the palace said. The statement gave no updates on the health of Prince Rainier, who is being treated in hospital for breathing, kidney and heart problems. AP

Ex-China bank typist nabbed for embezzling $6 million

BEIJING—A former Bank of China typist has been arrested for allegedly embezzling $6 million, in the latest scandal to hit China's troubled banking system, state media said Sunday.

Police arrested Zhai Changping, an employee at a Dalian branch of the bank in northeastern Liaoning province, last Monday after issuing a nationwide warrant for his arrest, the Xinhua news agency quoted police as saying.

Zhai allegedly embezzled the money starting from 1999 while working as a data input clerk, local police said.

They did not reveal how he managed to accumulate so much money, only saying that the matter was still being investigated.

The case was first reported to police in January. Zhai fled to northeastern Heilongjiang province, where he was arrested. He has been sent back to Dalian.

The arrest followed another scandal at the BOC in which two people jumped to their deaths in Heilongjiang's Harbin city after massive embezzlement was discovered, according to state media last month.

One of the two who committed suicide was the wife of Zhang Xiaoguang, the former chair of highway company Northeast Expressway who has been detained on suspicion of having embezzled up to 300 million yuan ($36 million) of his company's money which had been deposited at a local BOC branch.

The 300 million yuan linked to Zhang may only be the tip of the iceberg, as another 700 million yuan deposited by other companies at the same branch cannot be accounted for, media reports said.

Two senior Bank of China officials have gone missing and are believed to have fled the country since the scandal, Hong Kong media has said.

The case had prompted China's banking watchdog to urge the BOC, one of China's four leading state-owned commercial banks, to step up risk controls before its planned high profile stock exchange listings at home and overseas this year.

In another recent case, Gao Shan, an official at BOC's Hesong branch in Heilongjiang province fled overseas after secretly transferring out of the country 120 million dollars this year, state media had reported. *AFP*

World's largest iceberg starts to move again

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand—The threat of sea access being blocked to US and New Zealand bases in Antarctica may have receded after the world's largest iceberg broke free from the McMurdo Sound sea bed last month, New Zealand Antarctic officials said.

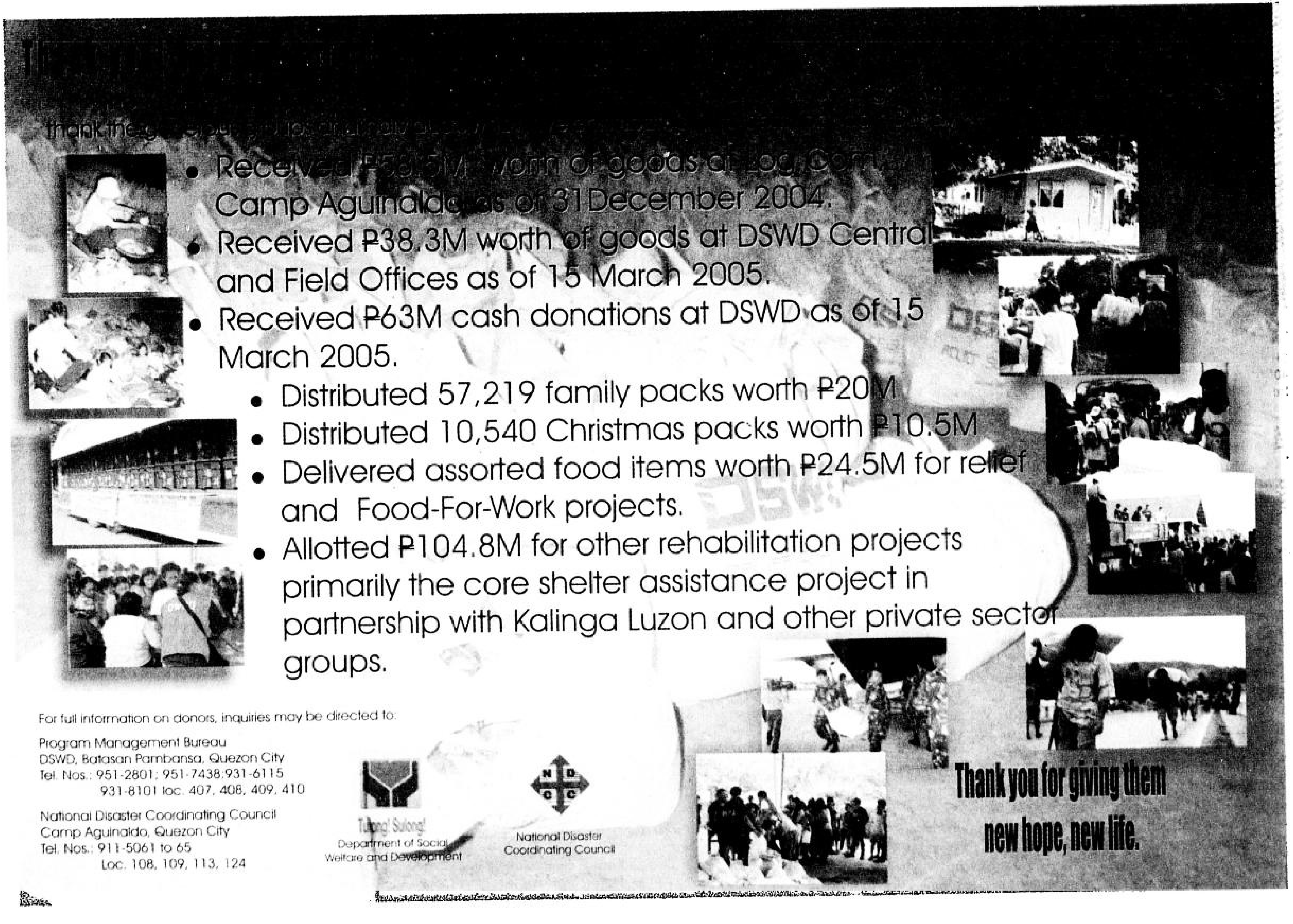
Iceberg B-15A—equivalent in size to Luxembourg—has started moving again into deeper water after becoming stuck in relatively shallow seas in January.

The previous position of the iceberg had caused a build-up of sea ice in McMurdo Sound, threatening access by US ice-breaking ships to New Zealand's Scott Base and the nearby US McMurdo Sound base.

Antarctica New Zealand Chief Executive Lou Sanson said staff were watching the situation with interest but, after past experiences, were making no predictions about the massive iceberg's likely course.

"We know very little about what makes this thing tick. Every time someone has made a prediction about it, they've been proved wrong," Sanson said.

He added the renewed drift of the iceberg had loosened the build-up of sea ice in McMurdo Sound, hopefully allowing access to the bases by ice-breakers in the next summer season, starting late this year. *AFP*



- Received ₱58.5M worth of goods at Log Com, Camp Aguinaldo as of 31 December 2004.
- Received ₱38.3M worth of goods at DSWD Central and Field Offices as of 15 March 2005.
- Received ₱63M cash donations at DSWD as of 15 March 2005.
  - Distributed 57,219 family packs worth ₱20M
  - Distributed 10,540 Christmas packs worth ₱10.5M
  - Delivered assorted food items worth ₱24.5M for relief and Food-For-Work projects.
  - Allotted ₱104.8M for other rehabilitation projects primarily the core shelter assistance project in partnership with Kalinga Luzon and other private sector groups.

For full information on donors, inquiries may be directed to:

Program Management Bureau
DSWD, Batasan Pambansa, Quezon City
Tel. Nos.: 951-2801; 951-7438;931-6115
931-8101 loc. 407, 408, 409, 410

National Disaster Coordinating Council
Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City
Tel. Nos.: 911-5061 to 65
Loc. 108, 109, 113, 124

Tuloy! Sulong!
Department of Social Welfare and Development

National Disaster Coordinating Council

ISSN 0116-2642
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Vol. 19 No. 113

OPINION

Email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph website: http://www.inq7.net
Text us your feedback: inquirer opi name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

THE PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, INC. has its business and editorial offices at
• Chino Roces Ave corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City
• P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City
• Our telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments
• Editorial Fax 897-4793 / 897-4794 • Advertising 897-4807
• Circulation 527-3342 / 527-3348 / 528-0183 / 528-0186 and 528-0213 / Fax: 528-02-34.

Publisher **ISAGANI YAMBOT**
Editor in Chief **LETTY JIMENEZ-MAGSANOC**
Managing Editor **JOSE MA. D. NOLASCO**
Associate Editor **ABELARDO S. ULANDAY**
Associate Editor for Readership **ROSARIO A. GARCELLANO**
News Editor **ARTEMIO T. ENGRACIA JR.** • *Chief, News Day Desk* **NILO B. PAUROM**
Opinion Editor **JORGE V. ARUTA**
National Editor **PERGENTINO B. BANDAYREL JR.**
City Editor **GERRY LIRIO**
Senior Desk Editor **JUAN V. SARMIENTO JR.**
Editorial Consultant **AMANDO DORONILA**
Chief Photographer **ERNIE U. SARMIENTO**
Art & Design Director **LYNETT A. VILLARIBA**

Board Chairman **MARIXI R. PRIETO**
President **ALEXANDRA PRIETO-ROMUALDEZ**
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing **RENATO R. REINOSO**
Senior Vice President for Corporate Services **DAVID O. VALDES**
VP for Advertising **FELIPE R. OLARTE**
AVP for Circulation **GLORIA P. LARDIZABAL**

All rights reserved. Except as permitted by law, no part of the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reproduced or distributed in any form or by any means stored in a database or retrieval system without its prior written permission.

Money talks

EDITORIAL

WHEN Malaysian Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Nazri Abdul Aziz recently said of Burma (Myanmar), "Everyone knows there is no democracy there," millions of Filipinos surely must have agreed. What might have taken Filipinos aback was that Aziz's statement was made in the wake of moves by Malaysian parliamentarians to pass a motion urging the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) to block the military junta-ruled Burma from chairing the organization in 2006, unless pro-democracy leader and Nobel Peace Laureate Aung San Suu Kyi is released from detention. Rightly or wrongly, viewing Malaysia as a flourishing democracy is far from many Filipino minds, as is viewing Malaysia as an exponent of democratic values. In the past, the strongest agitator for democracy and human rights in Burma were Filipinos, with or without the active support of their governments.

So when Malaysian Foreign Minister Syed Hamid Albar in turn declined to speculate on a yet unpassed legislative motion, but said Burma should "take cognizance" of the feelings of its neighbors, what neighbors was he speaking of? The Philippines? Until the Malaysian parliament made noise, our country had been consistently—and shamefully—quiet. Albar was referring to two other countries not necessarily recognized by Filipinos for their democratic credentials: Thailand and Singapore.

Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra of Thailand, the largest trading partner of Burma, who as late as last December had publicly stated the Burma junta had good reasons for keeping Aung San Suu Kyi under house arrest, has turned around and publicly declared: "The Asean nations have to talk and come out with a common stance that reflects the Asean feeling and will make Myanmar realize they have to improve themselves."

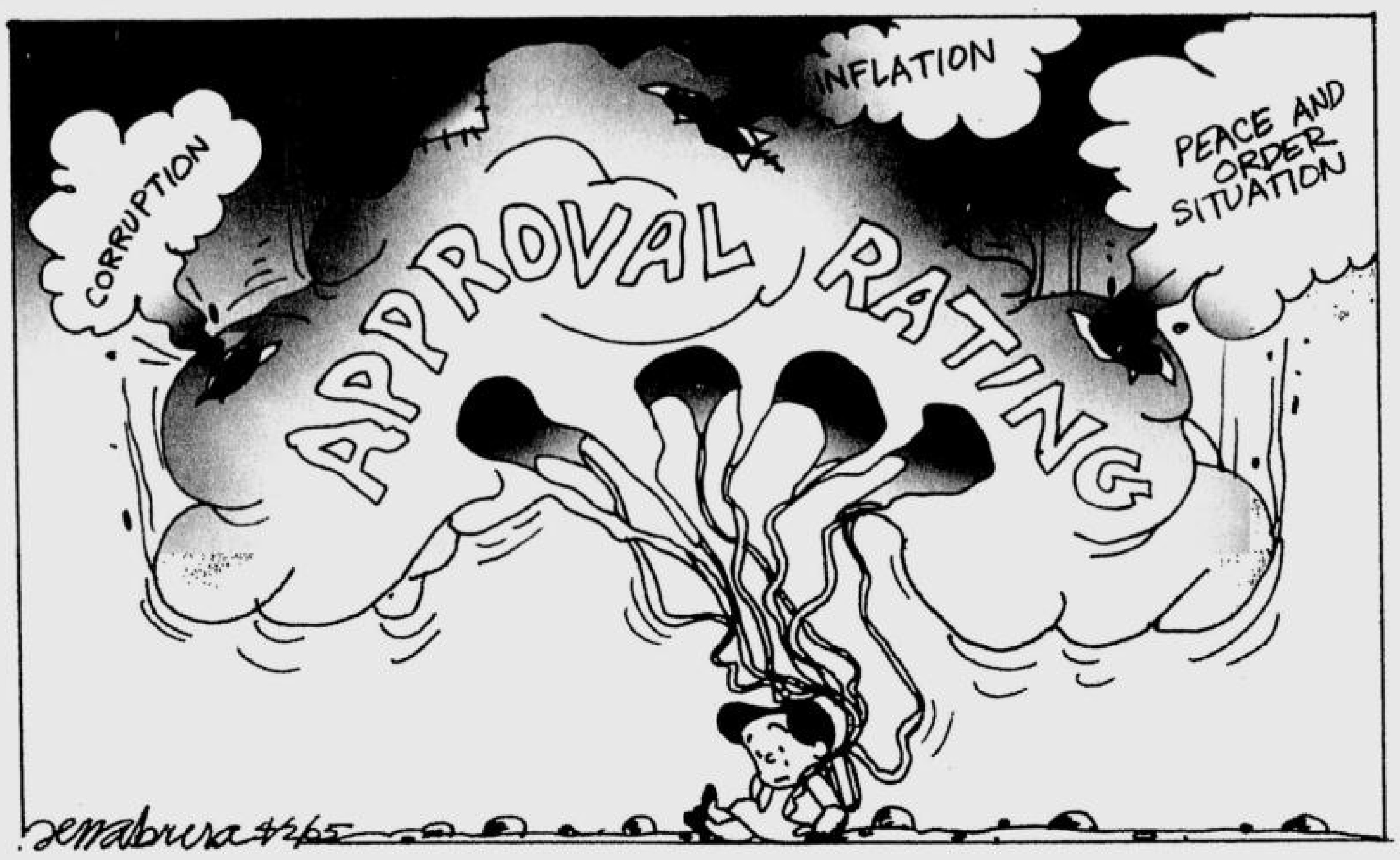
Singapore's Foreign Ministry recently expressed concern over the slow pace of reform, warning that Asean foreign ministers may put pressure on Burma at an informal meeting here in Cebu on April 9. This came on the heels of Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsein Loong's recent two-day visit to Burma. Singapore perhaps doesn't care about human rights, but is worried about the fact that the United States and the European Union have long placed economic sanctions on Burma. Both are major trading partners of Singapore, and it doesn't want trade to be hurt by any political fallout from a Burma chairmanship of Asean. As the leading foreign investor in Burma, Singaporean opinion counts where the views of other nations may not.

American ire is a serious risk, and that, not democracy, seems to be the more important consideration for Asean. Last November, the US Department of State said US dealings with Asean have been "complicated" by the case of Burma, and dangled the possibility US officials would be a no-show at Asean meetings if Burma gets the chairmanship. Recently, former US Ambassador to the United Nations Richard Holbrooke said that if meetings are held in Rangoon, Asean "runs a serious risk that countries which attended regularly for a quarter-century will not show [up]."

Western media commentaries have noted that Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand are concerned over the loss of foreign investors to China. And democratic-conscious Westerners might use undemocratic Burma as an excuse to shift investments to equally undemocratic, but far more lucrative, China.

So now what does the Philippines do? We get back on the bandwagon rather late, but with the sort of panache only we democratic Filipinos can muster. Senate President Franklin Drilon says the Philippines will propose an Asean-wide stand calling for Burma to be barred from assuming the chairmanship next year, which would save other Asean nations the embarrassment of having to publicly take a stand for democracy. Ironically, even if Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand's actions only prove that money talks, only the truly democratic, it seems, can walk the walk. And that honor goes to us.

A Filipino businessman once said that "democracy is development," and it may just be, that our Asean neighbors are finally catching on to this. There are genuine fears among our more affluent neighbors that democracy might be required to save the gains they proudly built up in an authoritarian manner. Whether sooner or later, apparently democracy saves the day.



A remembered loveliness

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

I WOULD like to share, if I may, the following reminiscences of my transfer 40 years ago to my present residence in Merville, Parañaque City, in hopes that it may give a valuable lesson in neighborliness to other like communities.

We were among the pioneers of Merville when it was a small and humble community. That was in 1965, when the air was fresh and clean and the grass was green. There were wide plenty spaces all around instead of cluttered tenements and crowded streets. Sunlight was golden with its warm glow and the moon shone with its splendid light in the quiet night. It was a place for all of us to grow in, for our children to grow up, and for us young parents to grow old.

Even the access to our village was a sight to behold. We enjoyed it then as we fondly remember it now. It was a long stretch of unobstructed road lined with stately pine trees on both sides that gave it a touch of serenity and beauty. I always thought of it as a colorful postcard that had escaped from fancy to reality.

It is gone now; the trees have been felled to give way to makeshift stalls and unsightly structures like the ugliness we fled from when we came to Merville. The slums have followed us. The cumulus clouds above, so enchanting on a summer day, were also to lose their former charm with the intrusion of the noisy airplanes. They were to rob us of our peace and repose, and still do now even in the early mornings and late at night.

But for all its lost loveliness, what I remember most about the old Merville was its neighborliness. We came here as strangers but were welcomed as friends. It was overwhelming to be treated as if we were cherished companions who were just returning from a trip somewhere. Everyone gave us the feeling that we were, simply stated, back home.

We were a small community then, with no pretensions but plenty of pride because we were living in our own brand-new houses. Be they ever so small, they were ours although most of them were mortgaged. Once I asked a neighbor why he had a two-story house and he said he got a big loan from the SSS. Nobody could show off because we were all debtors then (but not anymore).

During those early days we didn't even have a church. But we did not neglect our religious duties and Sunday Mass was held by *turnuhan* in the houses of the residents, who provided the breakfast as well. Later we built our own chapel on the spot where the community center now stands at the Belvedere Park. The men worked on it on Sunday afternoons, probably in hopes of heavenly indulgence. Their wives gave the *merienda* in expectation of nocturnal rewards.

Names were not really important during those days because every one was recognizably a friend, and that was enough. Whenever a car passed by, we automatically waved in greeting knowing whoever was driving deserved a warm hello. And the youngsters were happily united too. There was a drum-and-bugle corps of pre-teen boys that paraded noisily during restive days, a basketball team with much energy but little promise, and pretty leggy volleyball players the adolescent young men loved to ogle. And yes, there were no drugs then, at least not yet.

Things changed when Merville expanded into what is now known as the Executive Phase. More homeowners came but they were not welcomed as friends like the original settlers but as newcomers. Perhaps it was because of the difference in the lifestyle of the two groups that divided them or maybe it was just the physical distance between them that prevented the old closeness. One obvious result is the recurring rivalry now between the pioneers and the later transferees for control of the homeowners association.

This did not occur during the fledgling years of the Merville Park Homeowners Association when its directors and officers were elected without campaigning and discharged their duties amiably without hostility or competition. There was occasionally healthy dissent expressed without rancor, but the majority, right or wrong, always prevailed.

Let us all remember that while each of us has a separate life, we all share in the life of Merville. We must be together in the pursuit of its objectives for our common benefit. These cannot be achieved if they are subordinated to individual purposes, selfish ambitions, or indifference to the welfare of the greater number. One valid criticism of Philippine society is that it is too family-centered with little regard for matters outside the home. Expanding this concept, let us remember that Merville is our common home.

Looking back, I cannot help wishing that the old camaraderie, that sibling affection that characterized the relations of the original settlers of Merville some 40 years ago, will come back to unite all the present residents of our village. It is one of the best subdivisions in the country, with its tidy houses, its flowered gardens and swept streets, its sun-bathed days and the quiet nights, and the laughter of little children. Add to these the neighborliness of all the homeowners as before, and the idyll is complete.

Uninformed criticisms

GET REAL

Solita Collas-Monsod

EVERYBODY seems to be talking about the second paper of the so-called "UP 11," entitled "The Economy on a Cusp," the sequel, one could call it, to the one released last August, entitled "The Deepening Crisis: The Real Score on Deficits and the Public Debt."

But not very many people, including many of those who have either praised or criticized it, have actually read it, as evidenced by their questions and their comments. A pity, really, because the paper is only 16 pages long and is quite easy to understand (the communication skills of Noel de Dios, who put the thing together, can be considered world-class), as those who have read the paper will attest to. Try it for yourselves; it can be downloaded from the UP School of Economics website—www.econ.upd.edu.ph.

A typically uninformed comment, for example, is that the UP 11 did not "see" that "the government must first show that it is cutting expenses before it can ask the people to sacrifice and pay more," such as cutting the congressional pork barrel. Good grief! There's a whole section in the first paper which makes precisely this point, and is in fact rather appropriately titled "a burden shared." To quote from it: "Finally, fairness requires that if sacrifice is to be borne by the people, the government would do well to begin with and to demand more of itself. In this the acupuncturist's maxim may serve as guide: 'A thousand needles on oneself before even a single one on the patient.'" One of the measures recommended, you guessed it, is the halving of the congressional pork barrel!

How about the one that chastises the UP 11 for contending that the VAT bill is the "only way" to beat the budget deficit, and saying that the reasoning is faulty, because there are "three ways" to do it: increase collection, reduce spending, or a combination of both, and that an increase in collection doesn't mean increasing taxes only, it can also mean efficient collection of existing taxes? Again, just a cursory reading of the first paper will show that there is no such contention. What it emphasizes is that a **credible** VAT, is an indispensable component, i.e., it is a necessary, but not a sufficient, condition for a fiscal turnaround. Additionally, the paper makes the point that while every effort must be made to improve tax administration, there happens to be a time constraint, which makes an increase in taxes necessary if a collapse is to be averted.

The most worrisome is the view that the UP 11 must be batting for the approval of either the House or the Senate versions (even going so far as to chastise the authors for allowing themselves to be "used" by the administration). Wrong again. On the contrary, anyone reading the paper will realize that the authors were in fact pointing out the flaws in the two versions.

The very first paragraph of the second paper contains the statement: "[I]t is vital that they finally pass a law that is right in form and adequate to the economy's needs." The rest of the paper then reviews the magnitudes involved (P108 billion in additional revenues) as far as the economy's needs for 2005 are concerned, the legislative scorecard thus far in achieving these amounts (paltry: P6.7 billion from sin taxes, P8.5 billion from pork barrel cuts), and reminds us of the basic characteristics of a VAT (tax on consumption, mildly progressive). The main portion is the analysis of why the versions coming out of either house, the VAT-related proposals currently on the table, do not meet the criteria of being right in form or adequate in amount, together with suggestions as to what can be done to correct the flaws. The main message: Don't mangle what is really a simple proposal: increase the rates by two percentage points and remove the exemptions.

What are the stakes here? The UP 11 paper reminds us once again, as in the first paper:

"Yet the stakes have never been more tantalizing. For the economy now genuinely seems to be on a cusp, an odd moment during which things could just as easily turn for the worse as get better. Ironically, the financial markets are almost aching to favor the Philippines...What is required to complete the job, however, is a convincing fiscal turnaround...the Philippines could then become one of the few sovereign borrowers in the world that offered attractive premiums without the concomitant risk of default ...

"On the other hand, the scenario could just as easily vanish if the government failed to seize the moment and to act decisively. The economy could just as likely slide down the cusp's other half if no credible revenue measure was passed—more specifically if the much-awaited VAT amendment carried no increase in rates, or was seriously impaired by major exemptions, or entailed such innovations that its effective implementation was placed in doubt. Then the scenario would revert to a gradual or rapid deterioration in credit standing, increasing debt, further spending contraction, all of which would bring this country that much closer to a real payments collapse."

Ironically, the only hope now for a credible VAT amendment lies in the much-derided "third chamber," the bicameral conference committee that has the power to correct the flaws in the versions of the House and the Senate or make them worse.

Will the members of that committee rise to the occasion? Please, God.

Nation prays for Manila IPU's success

POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

AS this column was being written yesterday afternoon, it was still uncertain whether the Senate would be able to pass its version of the expanded VAT bill. In pressing hard for its passage, Malacañang appears to be ready to accept any terms and conditions, the thinking being, *basta pumasa lang sa Senado.*

Various organizations have joined the pro-VAT chorus. Under enormous pressure, Senate President Franklin Drilon and Majority Leader Francis Pangilinan have voiced guarded optimism about its passage, but some of their colleagues did not share it, as the chamber awaited the final interpellation by Sen. Serge Osmeña. Drilon told a group he met in Baguio last Holy Thursday over lunch that Osmeña was really raising some very serious questions about the bill which, unfortunately Department of Finance officials couldn't answer satisfactorily.

I couldn't be very optimistic the bill would be approved yesterday, but like many citizens I'm fully aware that we need to pass that expanded VAT law.

* * *

In Baguio, Drilon admitted that one problem, apart from the complicated nature of the VAT, was that figures being quoted on various VAT items, including by the senators themselves, were at variance. In fact, I note that even the Departments of Finance and of Energy couldn't agree on the VAT's effect on the power sector. The disparities have made it difficult for the senators to agree on whether to retain VAT at 10 percent with a far broader coverage or raise it to 12 percent with limited coverage. Drilon said that the Senate had held five caucuses on VAT, each averaging over two hours, and after one session lasting over five hours, they found themselves still on Page 1 of the bill!

* * *

We were able to pick up a lot of information from the Senate chief. For instance, a 10-percent VAT on medical services, which have heretofore been VAT-exempt, would bring in about P1.6 billion. But before the doctors groan, it should be stressed that those in government service or in the rural areas, who earn not more than P750,000 a year (thus, catering to the lower-income folks), will remain VAT-exempt. The BIR computes total individual income tax payments at about P80 billion a year, but of this aggregate amount, P65 billion comes from those with fixed income whose taxes are withheld, while the non-fixed income people pay only P15 billion. It's this second group that the VAT law has to run after. And did you know that only the US and Australia don't use the VAT system? As Sonny Alvarez noted at that lunch, this is a testimony to the efficiency of the system. On the other hand, among the countries subscribing to VAT, RP has the biggest number of exemptions: 255 items! The members of Congress want to broaden VAT coverage, but right now the bloodiest exemptions being debated for lifting in the Senate are those on power and fuel.

* * *

With the VAT's complexity bewildering even senators and businessmen, Drilon said it would be easier to write about the 112th Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Assembly, which the Senate hosts from tomorrow up to April 8 at the Philippine International Convention Center and the Cultural Center of the Philippines on Roxas Boulevard. Under an agreement between the two chambers, the Senate hosts the 106-year-old IPU while the House hosts the younger Asian Parliamentary Union. The meeting brings to Manila over 1,500 parliamentarians from over 140 member countries, who will be feted to a dinner at the Coconut Palace by Drilon on Monday and a Palace reception by President Macapagal-Arroyo on Tuesday. The IPU Assembly provides a golden opportunity for us to display our parliamentary sophistication as well as our fabled hospitality and enormous tourism potential. But it will also be a huge security nightmare, which is why the PNP and the AFP have fielded a combined force of over 15,000 personnel. At the Baguio lunch, Drilon's guests extended to the Senate every good wish for the Manila IPU's success and security, and the entire nation joins us in praying for it.

* * *

Like the fabled hosts Filipinos are, preparing the assembly site was truly a *bayanihan* effort. Drilon narrated how he allocated P15 million from his office funds to spruce up the CCP which had long needed repairs and overhaul (its marble *media agua* was already falling and the driveway had to be closed for a long while). He also requested Customs Commissioner Bert Lina to allow the new lighting and sound equipment donated by the Japanese Information and Cultural Center to the CCP to enter without payment of P4 million in taxes and duties, and Lina readily acquiesced. Senator Pangilinan donated P5 million of his pork barrel funds for the repair of the CCP air-conditioning, while the Bangko Sentral undertook the improvements of the PICC which it owns. Good show.

* * *

The INQUIRER's editorial yesterday lamented that "for all its apparent legal correctness," the Supreme Court decision throwing out Susan Roces' petition to substitute for her husband had to be "presaged by the most quoted passage" from Omar Khayyam's Rubaiyat. It said the quotation, which begins with "The Moving Finger writes; and having writ/moves on..." had no place in the ruling because it merely "introduces an element of ambiguity that unleashes a flood of clashing interpretations." I had wondered about this point for which the Court was being scolded by the INQUIRER, and hurriedly checked the text of the decision penned by Justice Leo Quisumbing. In fairness to the Court, that portion of the ruling was personal to the ponente who expressly wrote that the quote is "my view on the providential case for our consideration," and not the Court's.

Downgrading women

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

KEYNOTE speaker at Thursday's "Forum on the Post-Beijing + 10 Conference" was former Ambassador Rosario "Nena" Manalo who had been honored earlier for her many years of service to the women's movement, the latest of which is her appointment as chair of the United Nations Committee on the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). Manalo, who retired as undersecretary of Foreign Affairs, brings honor to the country not just because she is the first Filipina to chair this important body, but also because she earlier chaired another significant UN office in relation to women's rights, the UN Commission on the Status of Women.

True to form and to her reputation as a blunt, plain-spoken woman, belying the reputation of most diplomats, Manalo began her speech with a provocative statement. Referring to the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women (NCRFW), the 30-year-old "national machinery" that advises the national government on policies concerning gender affairs, Manalo said that she "loves" the NCRFW, being one of its founders. "And since I love the NCRFW, I would like to see it grow and not regress," she declared. "In fact, I believe that it's high time the NCRFW was elevated to a ministry."

As background, there are reports that Malacañang, as part of a general reorganization, has plans to place the commission under the authority of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD). Proponents of the plan have explained that the President merely wishes to place every agency now under the Office of the President under the supervision of a Cabinet member, arguing that she could not possibly personally oversee all these offices attached to the Office of the President.

* * *

THIS may make sense operationally, and may even have the added advantage of giving the NCRFW an effective and visible advocate within the Cabinet. But in terms of public perception, here and abroad, it's decidedly bad news not just for the NCRFW but for the women's movement.

Certainly, there's a big difference between an autonomous agency attached to the Office of the President that is free to coordinate with all government departments and even local governments, and a departmental agency or bureau. The issue is not just of prestige and clout, but also one of focus and reach.

And why the DSWD? Are women, in the view of the Arroyo administration, just one of the department's many constituencies, who count among the most destitute, helpless and desperate of our citizens? Does the President consider all women on equal footing with abandoned children, disaster victims, homeless families, the disabled, survivors of violence and abuse, mendicants and the feeble-minded?

"I appeal to the national leadership to reconsider (its plan) to put NCRFW within a ministry," said Ambassador Manalo. "It should instead be a ministry itself!"

Certainly, it would be an irony, if not an embarrassment, if the NCRFW, which is held to the world as a model of an institutional mechanism that has made great strides in the mainstreaming of gender in governance, would be downgraded, its stature and autonomy reduced. What we would be telling the world is that this government, under a woman president, does not hold women and women's issues in enough importance as to sustain the women's machinery's independence and support.

* * *

NOW for a spot of good news.

Giving the audience at the "Beijing + 10" forum an update on CEDAW, Manalo said that with the adoption a few years back of the Optional Protocol to CEDAW, a human rights treaty that complements the convention, women whose human rights have been violated now have the means to seek justice at the international level. As Manalo explained it, a woman or a group "can go directly to the committee in New York and may file a complaint" and possibly win a ruling that would have a compelling effect on domestic courts.

Another mechanism to seek action through the Optional Protocol is to have the committee itself to initiate an investigation into serious or systematic abuses of women's rights in member countries.

To enjoy the mantle of protection of the CEDAW and the Optional Protocol, though, a woman or group of women need to be citizens of a country whose government has signed both CEDAW and the OP-CEDAW. The Philippines signed CEDAW during the UN Decade for Women in 1980, ratifying it a year later. It signed the Optional Protocol in 2000 and ratified it in 2003. Ironically, the United States is one of a handful of countries which have yet to sign and ratify the CEDAW.

* * *

MANALO says the committee has so far heard two cases under the Optional Protocol.

The first was deemed not admissible because it was determined that the complainant had not yet exhausted all local legal remedies available to her.

The second case, which involved a woman survivor of domestic violence from Hungary, is proceeding apace after a finding that the state, in responding to her complaint, violated some articles of the CEDAW.

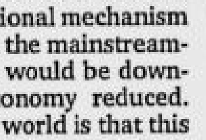
While the Beijing Platform for Action, recently affirmed in New York, sets a blueprint by which states could be monitored on their progress in promoting the rights and empowerment of women, CEDAW provides the legal basis for holding signatory governments accountable for continuing discrimination against women. It is, as a backgrounder states, "the first legally binding international document to prohibit discrimination against women and to set up an agenda for governments to advance women's equality."

As Manalo succinctly declared: "Both documents, the Beijing Platform for Action and the CEDAW, are mutually reinforcing. They are two faces of the same coin."

Some flora of Batangas

SENSE AND SENSIBILITY

Bambi L. Harper



ONCE upon a time, there was a lagoon in Batangas called Sta. Catalina where, we are told, was found the celebrated fish *baculi*, both big and small. The smaller ones were said to be better for frying and for *escabeche*. *Dalag* was plentiful as well as shrimps and shell fish.

But in the rivers of Tiaong many *sisas quitang, bacoco* and *talaquito* were caught. Legend had it that the crocodiles there didn't bite animals or men because they were born with muzzles on their mouths.

Some of the flowers had poetic names like *torno de sol, rosas de Alexandria, amapolas*, carnations, *camantigui, mansanilla, rosa de Japon, santan, rosa de China, rosal, champaca, girenguilla, campopot, gumamela, ylang-ylang, calachuchi*, lilies, *azucenas, matisadossagullala, la flor de aroma*, and *quilites* of many colors. In the fields were blue, white, yellow and all colors of *clavellinas*. (For all we know many of these flowers still exist but may be known by other names. Certainly many of these are no longer familiar names.)

Some notes on Tiaong:

More than 200 years ago, people thought that Tiaong would have been very prosperous if not for the bandits and robbers who raided it often. For this reason, it was surrounded by cane and other trees with thorns, two guard houses, a sentinel and it was closed at night. The town neither grew nor got smaller and had never less than 400 tributes.

It was said that the women were barren because they kept bathing in the Salig River and drank its water, which was cold and raw. The archives of marriages and baptisms were sparse, but in its place was an old man said to be 120 years called Capitan Baquico. He and another man, D. Jose Carlos, claimed that the town was founded by the Franciscans in a place called Santiago de Nayon beside the sea. Then it was transferred to another place called Pananabo-an, next to a place called Quiapo and finally to Lalig where it remained upto the 1790s. The parish was taken over by the Augustinians and made a *visita* of San Pablo until 1614, when it was given its own minister due to the persistence of D. Simon Talimtin who went to and from Manila until his petition was granted.

It had a church dedicated to St. John the Baptist with a convent of limestone and pebbles but with a roof of straw. it burned down 5 years later. It was rebuilt by Fr. Agustin Gallego.

Pedro De Castro was in Tiaong in 1773 and met a famous poet, Capitan Batoto, who had written many *comedias*, short farces, short poems of praise (*loas*) and colloquies. He was a native of the place and spoke Spanish, having been educated by the friars.

From Tiaong, De Castro traveled to the town of Rosario, passing two beautiful rivers of sweet water, and entered an isolated and hidden savannah. They passed a ravine so deep that it seemed to have some 50 fathoms of *pang-pang* throughout the road. In the middle was a place called Magasamang-Cabayan where, it was said, the bandits hid and robbed passersby. The past year, they had killed more than a dozen and later threw them in the ravine.

It was midnight by the time they got to the gates of Rosario, which were then already closed and locked like those of Tiaong. No one answered their knocks, until finally one of the guides climbed over the gate and found the sentinel asleep. They headed for the house of the *capitancillo*, who nearly fainted, thinking they were bandits. Finally they went to the convent, only to be told by the priest that he didn't have an order from his superior to house or feed them and it wasn't mandated by the Council of Trent. However, they spent the night there and left the following morning.

In the provincial chapter of 1692, Fr. Jose Medina was named parish priest of the town of Lubog, which was now called Lobo. It was located in a beautiful place, toward the marina beside the Sta. Rosa River. After some years, the Augustinians ceded it to the Dominicans because one of their friars had been killed and because of the Muslim raids. They transferred the town to several sites before finally settling on Mamiah (Laiya?), placing it under the protection of Our Lady of the Rosary. For some reason, jurisdiction was returned to the Augustinians until it was ceded to the regular clergy in 1710.

Lobo was a *visita* of Rosario, and in it were found apostates to the faith and criminals. There were Visayans, Camarines, Cagayanes who lived in freedom without paying tribute, without laws and without a king. The place had the richest placers of gold, cited by Fr. Colin as one of the most ancient. *Sibuco* and *molave* were abundant as well as deer and fish.

The other *visita* was Puting Buhangin where D. Francisco Noriega lived. The oldest family of Lobo was named Diwa, according to the archives of the province.

Church bells were rung to call people to pray three Hail Marys at dawn (4 a.m.), noontime and evening. On Fridays at three in the afternoon, the bells were rung 33 times. People would kneel and recite five Our Fathers and five Hail Marys in memory of the agonies that the Son of God suffered in the cross for us.

* * *

Comments to bambiharper@yahoo.com

One bloody April day

YOUNG BLOOD

Divine Capitanea Golingay

We want to know what the young are thinking about. What are their thoughts on current issues? We welcome contributions from the twentysomething and below.—**Ed.**

IN MY whole life, how many April 4's have come and gone? Twenty-nine, to be exact.

But there is one April 4 that is vividly etched in my mind. It's April 4, 1995, when at stroke of 12 noon, a sudden burst of gunfire reduced us from humans into hapless beings pleading for our lives amid a spreading carnage.

I was 20 and fresh out of college then. I had just finished the course of my interest and was my parents' pride and joy. Like a newborn delighted by the glimpse of day, it felt good to be free, out of the four walls of school. I was eager to explore boundless possibilities. As a friend and I sat down for lunch on that sunshiny day, I believed I was ready for the real world.

Indeed, the "real world" hit me in a way I had never even dreamed about. I had thought the "real world" would mean butterflies and sunshine, but, alas, it meant blood and tears.

Shortly after 12:00, we heard the first deafening bang. Moments later, a stocky man in military uniform, with blood dripping from his head, lay dead on the floor just inches from where we were seated.

There was pandemonium and gunfire erupted. The next thing I knew, I was hiding behind a freezer. As the gun shots came in rapid bursts and the blasts sounded even more frightful, time seemed to be frozen. For a moment, I thought I was watching a movie, but after blinking a couple of times, I realized that it was no movie. It was horribly authentic.

In the eatery, everyone was lying on the floor calling out to all the saints in heaven to help save them. I tried to look for a safer cover, only to see another man in military uniform and in full battle gear shooting at the raiders. As spent shells fell like heavy raindrops on my head, I could feel my eardrums explode with every shot he fired.

Gallantly he fought the raiders who were armed with bazookas. He was a picture of heroism, fighting a seemingly endless battle.

Then somehow, the fighting ended. My friend and I managed to run to safety, after an experience that was so harrowing and surreal to me.

My friend had been badly hit. Two bullets had entered the left side of her body and blood was trickling from her waist. I begged God to spare her. And God seemed to have heard me that day.

I was lucky. All I got were countless small cuts and bruises. But almost a hundred others were not as lucky as we. As the smoke of battle cleared, dozens of of innocent people lay dead, their lifeless bodies strewn everywhere. Only heart-rending sobs broke an eerie silence.

I do not know what happened to my hero that day. I haven't seen him since. Neither have I seen the faces of those who have sown such an imaginable terror that I still cringe at the memory.

Like that brave, nameless soldier, my town of Ipil, Zamboanga del Sur, refused to be broken by the terror and the tragedy. We who survived that infamous attack of April 4, 1995 continue to live. We dream on. We continue to hope for a more peaceful world.

Divine Capitanea Golingay, 29, now lives and works in Iloilo City.

Journey to the past

Anna

I AM a traveler, not between my town and the next, but between now and the past. I have this great capacity to remember details of things and events which have long been forgotten by many. Friends see it as a gift, but sometimes I am compelled to consider it as a curse. Now, I can only reminisce, as only I always could.

I see the poignant corners of Batangas City. I guess it was but a twist of fate that I deeply fell in love with somebody from that place. I remember the university as the place where, as a young teacher full of vibrance and idealism, I had a brush with the reality of politics and of life. Its decaying walls were reflective of the rotten system, plagued with corruption and patronage. But in one of my life's countless ironies, I met there a person with the sharpest mind and the keenest heart I know.

I remember the forlorn streets that I used to traverse during the deepest moments of my grief and solitude. Streets whose names I can't quite remember, leading to even longer stretches of despair. Paths where I see faces of people, each reminding me of myriad images from the past.

One of the major streets of the city directly leads to the basilica, a silent refuge which once witnessed my youthful passion. That's where I regularly saw a woman whose life and death inspired me in more ways than one. I was a perennial guest of that church. Its sturdy walls were passive listeners of my every exasperated sigh. Its interiors might have been filled with my most fervent prayers, of hopes that may never be realized in this lifetime.

Then, there were the restaurants and bars, venues of countless mournings, with chairs and tables that were uncomplaining witnesses to passionate tears. Waiters and waitresses who might have felt the searing pain echoed in my every word. Cold food, bitter beverages, old friend, lost love.

And how could I ever forget Calumpang Bridge, which stretches marvelously in the heart of the city, overlooking a dead river? The sight of the full moon and its sublime reflection on the timid waters late at night can be overwhelming. Many times, the same river swallowed my teardrops. I remember Amy Tan saying, "Your tears take nothing of your sorrow but they feed somebody else's happiness." Damp wind would wrap my whole body, taking a little sadness away. But even then, the pain still remained, eating me up, little by little devouring even my soul.

And finally there was him, a magnified reflection of myself. The person who has the most profound influence in my life and the man for whom I've always had and always will have the deepest affection. He who came and went as quick as a heartbeat. I never understood then and I still don't understand now. What I know is that when he left, there's this sadness that never seems to leave me. In moments of great lucidity, I would see his face and hear his voice as if everything just happened yesterday. The truth is, these are memories which have been long forgotten by both time and space.

I left the city to hide from my pain, hoping that happy moments will far outnumber the sorrowful ones. But I can still reminisce now, as only I always could.

Anna, 27, is a college instructor and an NGO worker at the same time.

A soldier's thoughts or warning?

THIS is a rejoinder to Sen. Gregorio Honasan's commentary, titled "Our dreams shall never die." (PDI, 2/26/05)

I can still vividly recall my mother's anguish when she first visited me in my detention cell in Camp Crame in the early part of 1990, after I was arrested for having allegedly participated in the coup of 1989. As she hugged me close to her and with tears flowing from her eyes, she said, "Son, when will you ever stop fighting our presidents?"

For the first time I am publicly admitting having played a key role in the original Edsa. I have never discussed my role with any media personality before and until now, despite my misgivings about some self-proclaimed heroes lying through their teeth about their alleged participation in Edsa '86.

Looking back at what transpired then, I remember then Col. Billy Bibit giving me final instructions, after we hijacked the BAC-111 jet at the Awang airport in Cotabato, to prepare my men for a flight to Manila. Gen. Fidel Ramos was not bluffing when he announced over Radio Veritas that 400 paratroopers from Cotabato would be joining the people at Edsa. But we were arrested upon arrival at the Naia.

Yes, I fought against my "presidents" in 1986 and 1989. I did so because I was convinced there was too much corruption in government at that time. Honestly, after doing it the third time, I feel like I do not want to fight my president again. But then again, I get inclined to become fickle-minded every time I look at the innocent faces of my children and the millions of poor Filipinos who become poorer by the day. And as I look back at that time when my mother asked me that very intriguing question, I now heave a sigh of relief after having realized that it was not the Presidents of this country that I have been fighting after all, but the culture of corruption that has long plagued the nation.

To my mind, politics has so much to do with this social malaise. Unless we all do something to put an end to the mismanagement of our affairs, we will never see a peaceful and progressive country in our lifetime.

It is a fact that the majority of our present political leaders are descendants of men and women who were in politics many decades ago. Instead of the younger generation of leaders belonging to these families doing better, the country gets poorer and gets more mired in debt and poverty.

People are desperately clamoring for change. This is the reason why there are Edsas piling up. Maybe it's time to do one final Edsa, a revolution for change or against corruption, preferably a better version and bloodless, like the original, but more focused on attaining the dreams and aspirations of the Filipino people.

We who joined the original Edsa are not getting any younger, but "We shall not die with our dreams!"

—**COL. JOSE F. GAMOS,**
c/o janicegamos@gmail.com

Subject country's debt to audit

THE FILIPINO people have long been suffering for the sins of the government. And if the current administration will have its way, more agony is forthcoming.

It is in this light that the Freedom from Debt Coalition strongly opposes the enactment of a revised VAT law and, instead, calls for the immediate implementation of a congressional debt audit.

This administration and its allies are again moving on the wishes of international financial institutions, railroading the tax measure's approval by Congress, even if clearly it is against the people's interest. The proposed VAT measure will increase the VAT rate by as much as 20 percent; at the same time, it will lift the VAT exemptions on petroleum products, electric cooperatives, the power sector, medical and legal services, artists and their artworks, among others.

The current proposal to increase the VAT rate to 12 percent and lift the exemptions surely penalizes the same people who have been paying VAT all along. More critically, the enactment of the proposed VAT bill will raise the prices of basic commodities and utilities, straining the already burdened consumers, more particularly the poor. For instance, once the VAT exemption of the independent power producers (IPPs) is lifted, an additional 50 centavos will be passed on to consumers, this on top of the P1.87 and P0.91 rate increases under consideration by the Energy Regulatory Commission.

While the FDC sees the need to raise public sector revenues, the coalition believes that any increase in revenues must be utilized to address the increasing demand for public services.

Unfortunately, despite the urgent need to allocate substantial public resources to alleviate the plight of the poor and spur genuine human and economic development, government resources are being drained by the servicing of the country's debilitating debt.

Demanding higher taxes from the larger number of Filipinos who are poor, simply to finance debt payments, is outrightly unjust. Only a strategic resolution to our debt problem can provide a sustainable solution to the current crisis, not the imposition of wanton and unjust tax palliatives.

—**BOBBY DECIEMBRE,**
Debt and Budget Campaign,
Freedom From Debt Coalition,
fdc_media@yahoo.com

Inescapable truth

I AM sure the death of two leftist activists in Camarines Norte would be exploited to the hilt by the Left for propaganda purposes.

The culprit as expected would be the archenemy of the New People's Army—the military. Anything bad that happens to any member, sympathizer, follower or even a barangay folk in an NPA-infiltrated barangay is always blamed on the military, anyway.

Despite the vehement denial of the military, or even if the NPA itself did the killing, it would appear in the media that the murder of the two activists was the handwork of the military. And the mostly malleable Filipino mind might just entertain such insinuations.

But as the Bible points out: The truth shall always prevail. Vengeance is to the Lord and the wicked ones will be punished in hell.

—**LORENCE V. CASTAÑEDA,**
139 Pasay Rd., Makati City

Old folk wisdom

OLD folks often tell us that when cassava bears flowers, the tuber is poisonous. They were correct although they could not present scientific basis for saying so, just their experience.

An agriculturist explained to me five years ago that there is poison in the skin of the cassava. And that the older the cassava tuber is, the higher the concentration of the poison, which ultimately penetrates the cassava. No matter how it is prepared, the poison remains in the "meat." Sensitive persons, children and the elderly will suffer the effects of cassava.

I believe that the food vendor had no malice in serving cassava as snack food. She herself ate it and got sick. She probably disregarded an old folk wisdom.

—**VERNA MAMICPIC-ALIH,**
Bantayan, Dumaguete City,
Negros Oriental

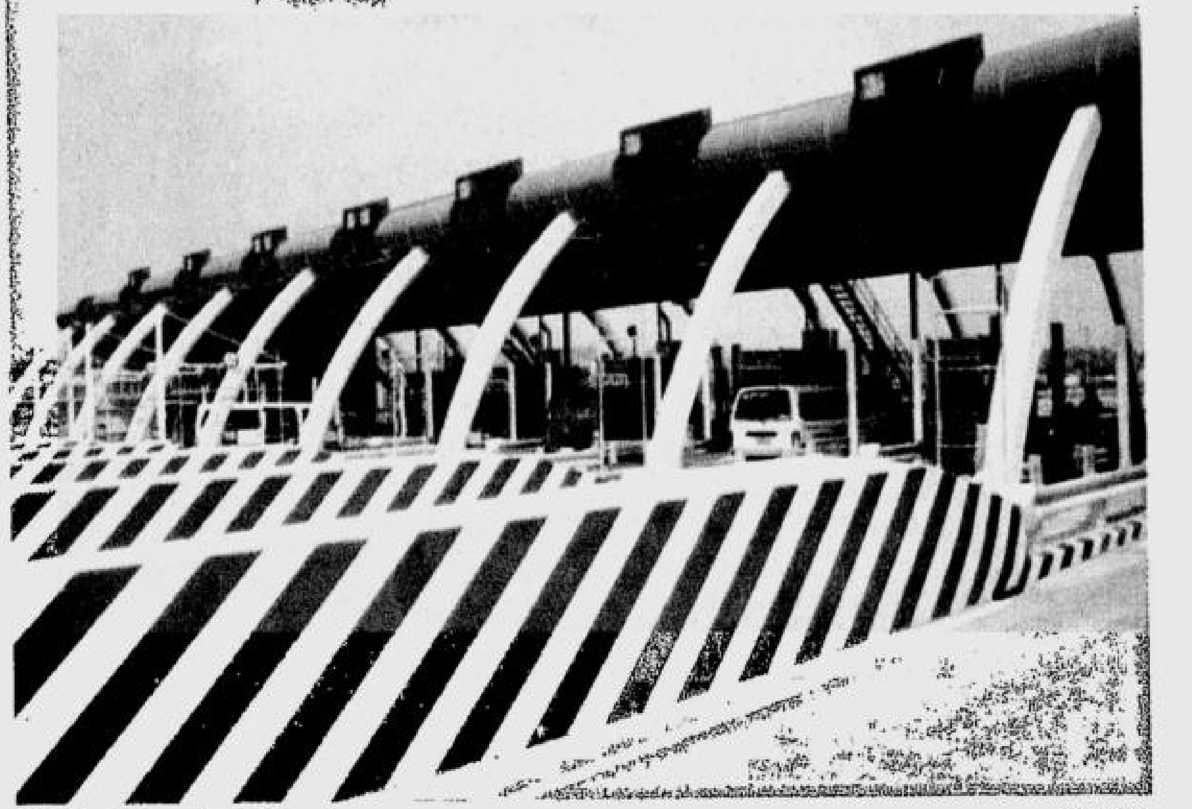
Where's the action? Answer, please

IN MAY 2007, we will have our local elections. The Commission on Elections failed to automate the 2004 elections, and the Supreme Court ruled that the automatic voting and counting machines ordered by the Comelec failed to meet the requirements. The Court also ruled that the machines should be returned to the supplier and the latter must repay the government.

We have only two years and three months to go before the May 2007 elections. What is being done to introduce automation in the May 2007 elections? What action has been done by the Comelec to comply with the ruling on the machines and the funds?

Can anybody in government come up with the answers?

—**APOLONIO G. RAMOS,**
42 Mindanao St.,
Marikina City



NLEX toll plaza: doubtful savings

PDI PHOTO

Similar arguments

THIS is in reaction to Raul Pangalangan's column, titled "Invisible costs of low toll rates." (PDI, 2/25/05) He justifies the exorbitant fees being charged by the Manila North Tollways Corp. (MNTC), saying that people don't really see what he calls "invisible costs." His arguments sound very similar to the ones found in all the flyers and commercials supporting the toll fee hike.

The MNTC claims that the higher cost is offset by the savings in fuel, maintenance and time. The fact is: The research that supports these claims was commissioned by the MNTC itself and is at the very least questionable. For one, I don't think that any insurance company would be lowering its premiums because of the toll way.

As for the "open system," the MNTC admits that the areas covered are the busiest and carry the biggest volume. I think it is quite obvious that the MNTC opted for the open system so it can charge the most number of motorists a considerably higher rate. To say that the traveling public benefits from it because this will ease traffic congestion at the early choke points is simply absurd. In the case of the Valenzuela exit, removing the tollgates makes no difference since the choke point is the intersection and not the tollgates. If one thinks P42 is just nickels-and-dimes then I think he has a problem.

Pangalangan took great pains to paint a horrific past of potholes and grotesque patchwork on the toll way. I've lived in Valenzuela for almost my whole life and the fact is, it wasn't really that bad. I remember the Philippine National Construction Corp. widening the highway, installing emergency call boxes, and even buying new patrol vehicles.

Yes, there were problems, but these problems could have been remedied if the PNCC were more efficient and effective in maintaining the highway. But as I saw it, the PNCC and the Department of Public Works and Highways lost all interest in maintaining the highway after the Lopez group made a bid to take over its operations. I guess we should ask Jose de Jesus about this. He was in the government at that time and now he heads the MNTC.

Pangalangan should have also brought up the fact that a very large portion of the cost is due to exchange rate considerations. The project was primarily financed by foreign borrowing. This happened during the boom years of the Ramos administration when the peso was strong and it seemed like a good idea to borrow from foreign lenders. Then the Asian financial crisis happened, and now it is buried deep in debt. It is obvious that the Lopez family really did not have the money to undertake this project in the first place, and it had to borrow heavily to get it done.

To me, it doesn't make sense for the people to pay for the miscalculations and misjudgments of investors.

—**RONALD LOPEZ,**
ronlopez@gmail.com

An alternative mode for securing housing tenure

COMMENTARY

Gemma Rita R. Marin
Institute on Church and Social Issues

I AM new on the job. On my first day of work, I was told of my deliverables for the probationary period: "We want you to undertake a full research work from conceptualization to data-gathering and writing." My boss continued, "Your assignment will be—The Adoption of the Usufruct Arrangement as Alternative Tenure Instrument for Providing Security of Tenure to Urban Informal Settlers."

The term "usufruct" is derived from the Latin word *ususfructus*, broken down further to *usus et fructus* which means "use and enjoyment." It is generally defined as the legal right to use and enjoy the fruits or profits of something belonging to another. The new civil code points out the right of the user to enjoy another's property with the obligation of preserving its form and substance, unless the title constituting it or the law provides otherwise. While the scheme is more widely applied to forest lands, the Urban Development and Housing Act (UDHA) of 1992 or RA 7279 opened up the legal basis for employing usufruct, among other arrangements, as an alternative for providing security of housing tenure owing to the difficulty and, sometimes, remote possibility of securing a land title for many of the urban poor.

The study allowed me and my research assistant to look into a case employing the usufruct arrangement, a local government-assisted housing project in Tagaytay.

Tagaytay has 34 barangays broken down into 24 rural and 10 urban areas. Its total land area is 6,500 hectares, of which an estimated 80 percent belongs to private individuals in Manila.

It was only in the 1990s, coinciding with the boom in real estate development, when Tagaytay pursued a rigorous city development. This boom in construction and the need to escape from the stress of everyday work prompted the landowners from Manila to begin claiming and developing the land which they owned in Tagaytay. On many of these lands, however, lived informal settlers who have built their house and resided there for years. The decision of these landowners to develop their properties for residential or commercial use left some 2,000 long-time residents of the city homeless.

It helped that the staff members of the city government had attended conferences to pick up new and more effective approaches for socialized housing. They learned about the possibility of awarding housing units without having to dispose of the land. This sounded good for the beneficiaries who could not afford the high-priced land in Tagaytay. It sat well with the city government as well, given the limited land resources.

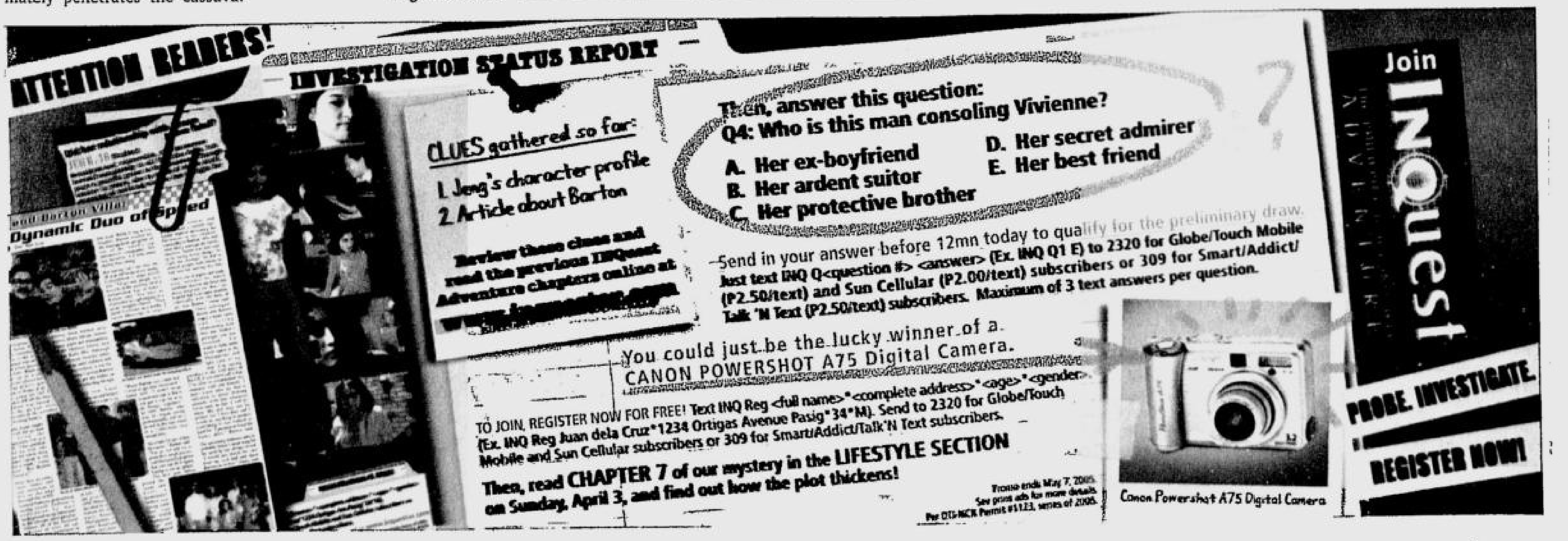
For this socialized housing project, the city government is the landowner while the beneficiary is the user or usufructuary. The city government awarded only housing units with a Certificate of Housing Award and Occupancy and an agreement called Kasunduan sa Paninirahan, indicating assignment of the unit. Land was not included in the award due to its being a limited resource. Moreover, the experience of other local governments showed that beneficiaries who were awarded land titles sold the properties for easy cash, only to become homeless again.

The agreement stipulated that the beneficiaries would pay 50 percent of the cost of the unit, or P400 to P750 monthly, for a maximum of 15 years. They could not be forced to leave as long as they made the monthly payments, maintained and preserved the form of the unit, and did not transfer their right to another without the consent of the Housing Office. The amounts accumulated from the payments were pooled into a fund for the expansion of the housing project. If a beneficiary vacated the house, whether voluntarily or forcibly, he would not get back the amounts already paid. Instead, these were considered as lease payments for staying in the unit.

Upon full payment of the subsidized amount, the beneficiary will be issued a tax declaration form obliging him/her to pay the annual real property tax. Compliance with this requirement, according to the city planning officer, allows the beneficiary to continue to reside in the unit.

The scheme seems to be working well for both the local government and the beneficiaries. The project is now being implemented in three city-owned sites and on an expropriated land, and is still expanding. The beneficiaries, on the other hand, feel relatively secure, having been assured that they cannot be evicted for as long as they diligently pay the monthly fees.

The Tagaytay case illustrates that the "usufruct" scheme can be made feasible if supported with binding instruments and documentation, and with affordable payment options on the part of the user. This case confirms that in place of the supreme yet elusive land title, the usufruct arrangement can become a promising alternative for securing tenure in housing. Making it known and acceptable to the public is another story.



ATTENTION READERS!
INVESTIGATION STATUS REPORT
CLUES gathered so far:
1. Jeng's character profile
2. Article about Barton
Review these clues and read the previous INQuest Adventure chapters online at
Then, answer this question:
Q4: Who is this man consoling Vivienne?
A. Her ex-boyfriend
B. Her ardent suitor
C. Her protective brother
D. Her secret admirer
E. Her best friend
Send in your answer before 12mn today to qualify for the preliminary draw.
Just text INQ Q<question #> <answer> (Ex. INQ Q1 E) to 2320 for Globe/Touch Mobile (P2.50/text) and Sun Cellular (P2.00/text) subscribers or 309 for Smart/Addict/Talk 'N Text (P2.50/text) subscribers. Maximum of 3 text answers per question.
You could just be the lucky winner of a CANON POWERSHOT A75 Digital Camera.
TO JOIN, REGISTER NOW FOR FREE! Text INQ Reg <full name>*<complete address>*<age>*<gender> (Ex. INQ Reg Juan dela Cruz*1234 Ortigas Avenue Pasig*34*M). Send to 2320 for Globe/Touch Mobile and Sun Cellular subscribers or 309 for Smart/Addict/Talk'N Text subscribers.
Then, read CHAPTER 7 of our mystery in the LIFESTYLE SECTION on Sunday, April 3, and find out how the plot thickens!
Promo ends May 7, 2005.
See print ads for more details.
Per DTI-NCR Permit #1123, series of 2005.
Canon Powershot A75 Digital Camera
Join INQuest
PROBE. INVESTIGATE.
REGISTER NOW!

E-mail: inq_cebu@inquirer.com.ph

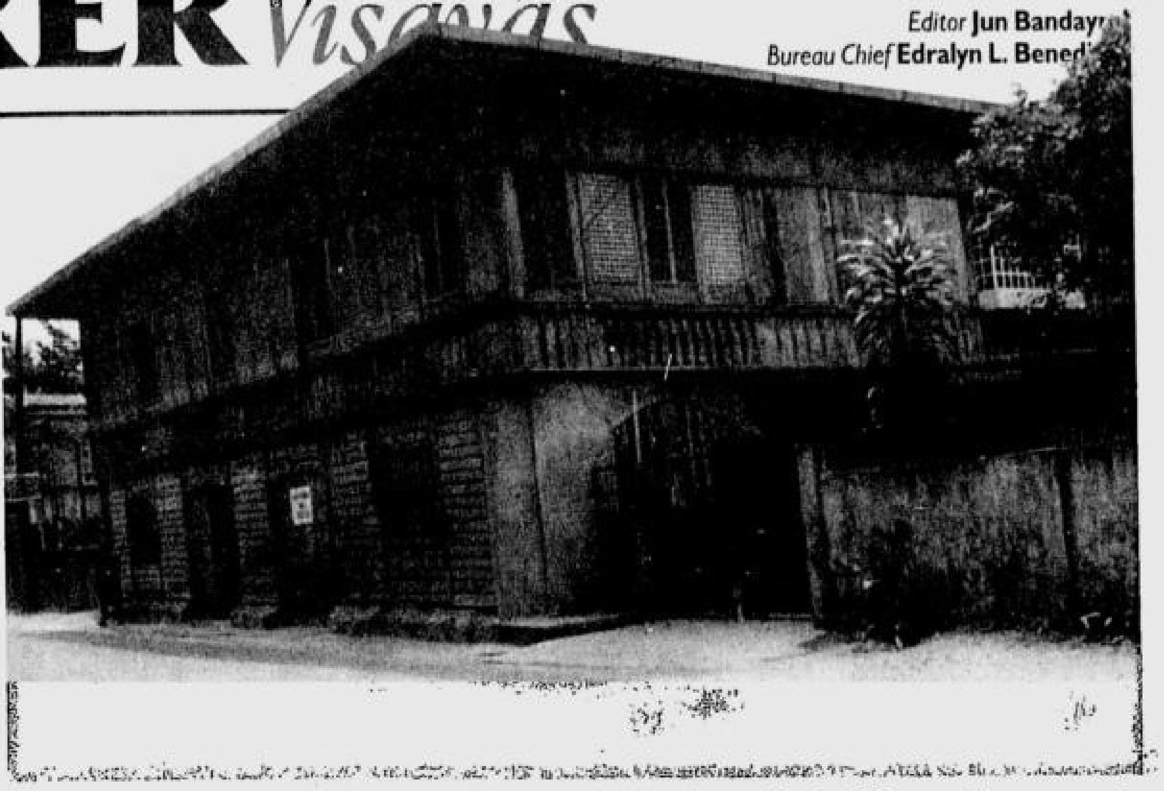
INQUIRER Visayas

Editor Jun Banday

Bureau Chief Edralyn L. Bened

PAST PERFECT FOR BACLAYON

Vanguards of ancestral homes



THE FRONT view of the house of Marcelo Villamor and Selvina Iyog, said to be 250 years old now owned by Dr. Juanito Ayaay. NILO SAPONG

By Chito A. Fuentes
Baclayon, Bohol

THE KEEPERS of the past in Baclayon town in Bohol have their work for the future cut out for them.

"What I want our group to [do] is form ourselves into an accredited NGO (nongovernment organization) dedicated to the revitalization of Baclayon culture and appreciation of Baclayon history," said art connoisseur Lutgardo "Gardy" Labad.

Labad, a multi-awarded stage director, playwright, scriptwriter and choreographer, actively counted himself among the concerned town residents who fought a road-widening project that would have destroyed at least 10 ancestral homes in Poblacion.

"We would like to make our homes into community museums or galleries or inns or cultural stops or resource centers which can showcase Baclayon history and traditions," he explained.

Labad, whose ancestral home was built by his great grandparents in 1905, nonetheless acknowledged not only the urgency of the task but also its complications.

"We need to win the hearts and minds of Baclayon people by conducting creative participative education workshops and heritage events. Create and put up historic markers in front of houses with names of original builders, date of establishment and some historic notes," Labad added.

When the crisis over the road project came to a head, Labad openly wept, not so much about the thought of losing the centuries-old houses.

Divided community

He was saddened by the emerging rift among residents torn between the minority, which wanted the project revised to save the ancestral homes, and the majority, which equated progress with the swift completion of the road project even at the cost of destroying the historical homes.

"We need to let people feel how it is to live in the not-so-distant past," said Telly Gonzaga-Ocampo, a certified public accountant.

The ancestral house of her maternal grandmother is one of those spared by the controversial project, and Ocampo acknowledged the responsibility that came with it.

"We intend to open our ancestral homes to the public," she said.

The issue, she said, served to open their eyes to the need to highlight the contribution of the houses to Baclayon's culture and history.

"The houses give a stamp of character to the town. Their existence intertwines with the history of the church and the town," she added.

The four-centuries-old Baclayon Church, the oldest in Bohol, has been spared, although there had been fears that the project would destroy its belfry.

For Maximiliano Caballo, 86, vision should be anchored on the past.

Although the house that his father built is relatively younger compared to the others, Caballo insisted that the ancestral homes be treated with respect.

He noted that when he migrated to Misamis Occidental, he built "an exact replica" of his father's house in Baclayon because it has become a part of him.

"If you remove the old houses, *'di na* (it's no longer) Baclayon," Caballo warned.

In fact, Caballo not only felt the need to preserve whatever remains of Baclayon's past but even to recover whatever was possible of the past.

"What will distinguish Baclayon from the other towns?" he asked.

For Dr. Juanito Ayaay, 62, the task simply was to formalize what has been practiced at his ancestral home.

He revealed that the family members who live in the old house received tourists and strangers who wanted to see it. "It has been that way and we understand," he said.

More than just houses

The doctor revealed that the house was kept tidy and ready for visitors who would casually drop by, curious to see how the interior of a house generations back looked like.

Ayaay, who has been based in the United States since 1968, recalled that when he first heard the news about the threat posed by the road project to the houses, he casually dismissed it.

"I could not believe that the people of Baclayon would actually consider destroying [the houses]," he explained.

Ayaay, who belongs to the fourth-generation lineage of Marcelo Villamor and Selvina Iyog, grew up in perhaps the oldest existing historical home in Baclayon.

"If you erase your culture, what kind of people are you?" he pointed out.

For one who was born and grew up in the house estimated to be 250 years old, Ayaay said the house was "indelibly etched" in his memory.

Like Caballo, Ayaay's house in the US resembles his Baclayon home.

He agrees with Ocampo that the houses are an integral part of the church and town history. "Here you have the oldest church, but where are the houses?" he pointed out.

If the ancestral homes are destroyed, Ayaay said there would be no trace of the homes of the people who faithfully worshipped in the church.

Deeper appreciation

He said it would be strange having a church without the people who go to it. "Destroying the houses would be like destroying our very foundations as a people," he added.

Ayaay, who comes home yearly, pointed out that those who have migrated to other places make it a point to bring their children and grandchildren back to their roots.

Incidentally, Labad, Ocampo, Caballo and Ayaay now live outside their ancestral homes. Ayaay has, in fact, built an elegant seaside home for his retirement years.

Ocampo sought to disabuse suspicion they were only protecting the houses out of proprietary consideration.

"We are not fighting for something we want to keep. We are fighting for something we want to share," she stressed.

With the commitment of the Department of Public Works and Highways to limit the project to "as-built" specifications, the fate of the old houses is assured.

For the moment, it seems like the worst is past for the ancestral homes in Baclayon.

If there is one good thing to come out of the crisis for the homeowners, it is a deeper appreciation of the past and a clear commitment to pass them on to the future.

Waray songs appeal to Leyte, Samar youths

DOMS Pagliawan, an assistant professor at the Leyte Normal University, hit it big with young Leyteños and Samareños with the Waray songs he composed and wrote that made it to the top ten countdown of a local FM station, besting the more popular Pinoy and foreign songs. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

By Vicente S. Labro
Tacloban City

THEY call me by many different names, but the truth is they are mistaken 'coz I'm not what they think I am," croons the singer, referring to his being a Waray.

Waray is what people call the natives of Eastern Visayas, or of the main islands of Leyte and Samar, but in their native tongue, it means nothing—yes, nothing as in none, nil, zero, zilch.

But in his song "Waray Waray," Dominador "Doms" Pagliawan tried to correct the notion that the Warays are dirt-poor who do not aspire for a better future.

It could not be ascertained if it was the lyric or the tune, or both, that made the song attractive to young Leyteños and Samareños. For weeks, the song was a hit, even competing with national and foreign songs in the airlanes. It made the Top Ten countdown of ABS-CBN's FM radio station (MOR-Tacloban).

For Pagliawan, what counted most was that the song has an appeal to the young natives. Actually, the song was one of those featured in his latest album titled "Sangkay Mo (Your Friend)," along with contemporary pieces in Waray, such as love songs, social criticism, folk songs and ballads.

Humble beginnings

Pagliawan said he was more of a composer than a singer. Nonetheless, hé decided to record Waray songs in order "to help document the usage of the [Waray] language."

His latest album is already his fourth. He had earlier recorded two albums of Waray songs and one in English.

A Master of Arts in Literature graduate from the University of San Carlos in Cebu City, Pagliawan now works as assistant professor at the Leyte Normal University (LNU) in Tacloban City. In his spare time, he writes Waray poems and short stories, aside from academic and journalistic pieces.

He also paints, sculpts, plays the guitar, draws editorial cartoons, and writes a column in a local daily newspaper. At present, he is finishing a Waray novel.

Born in a far-flung village of Jiabong, Samar, Pagliawan strove to finish his studies as a working student in Catbalogan, Samar. When he graduated, he taught in high school and college at the Samar College in Catbalogan before transferring to the LNU.

Award-winning songs

Featured in Pagliawan's new album are "Sangkay Mo," the carrier single which had been a finalist in the First Bombo Radyo Puro Waray Music Festival in 1993; "Kinabuhi Han Tawo" (The Life of Man), which won second prize in the Balaug Arts Society songwriting contest in Catbalogan in 1997; and "Pagdaug" (Triumph), which also won second prize in the Ibabao Arts Council of Calbayog City songwriting contest in 2000.

A Waray translation of the popular song "Babae," aptly titled "Babaye" (Woman), which was the third place regional winner in the national Women's Art Festival songwriting competition in 2000; and "Kita Mismo" (We, Ourselves), a finalist in the 1999 Balaug Arts Society songwriting tilt, which urges Warays to unite and help themselves in pursuit of cultural and economic prosperity.

The album also has a couple of Waray love songs and five new compositions, all expressive of Waray culture and life.

Pagliawan's Japanese classmate at the University of San Carlos, Yoshiro Kobari, produced the album.

Autohaus BMW

Sheer Driving Pleasure

BMW 3 Series Executive Cars for only P648,525 down payment at Autohaus BMW.

Selected BMW 3 Series Executive cars with low mileage available at special low down payment and low monthly financing programs.

Model	Down Payment	12 months	24 months	36 months	48 months	60 months
318i M Sport	648,525	136,151	74,108	53,069	42,957	36,762
325i Executive	769,444	161,536	87,925	62,963	50,966	43,617
325i M Sport	791,423	166,151	90,437	64,762	52,422	44,863

Executive Cars Available:

	BMW 318i M Sport Imola Red 10km	**BMW 325i Exec.** Sienna Red 10km	**BMW 325i Exec.** Black Sapphire 10km	**BMW 325i M Sport** Phoenix Yellow 10km
	BMW 318i M Sport Black Sapphire 10km	**BMW 325i Exec.** Oxford Green 10km	**BMW 325i Exec.** Titanium Silver 10km	**BMW 325i M Sport** Imola Red 10km
BMW 318i M Sport Titanium Silver 10km	**BMW 318i M Sport** Topaz Blue 10km	**BMW 325i Exec.** Kalahari Beige 10km	**BMW 325i Exec.** Aspen Silver 10km	**BMW 325i M Sport** Black Sapphire 10km

Autohaus BMW 184 E. Rodriguez Jr. Avenue, Libis, Quezon City • Tel. (02) 638 0734 • Fax (02) 438 0419

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0832 Series of 2005

NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU
Room 201, Bonuan Apartelle
10 Happy Glen Loop, Baguio City
Tel. No. (074)443-9255
Fax No. (074)443-8971
E-mail: inq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU
23 Aurora St., Old Albay District
Legazpi City
Tel. No. (052) 820-6402
Fax No. (052) 820-1274
E-mail: inq_bicol@inquirer.com.ph

Across the NATION

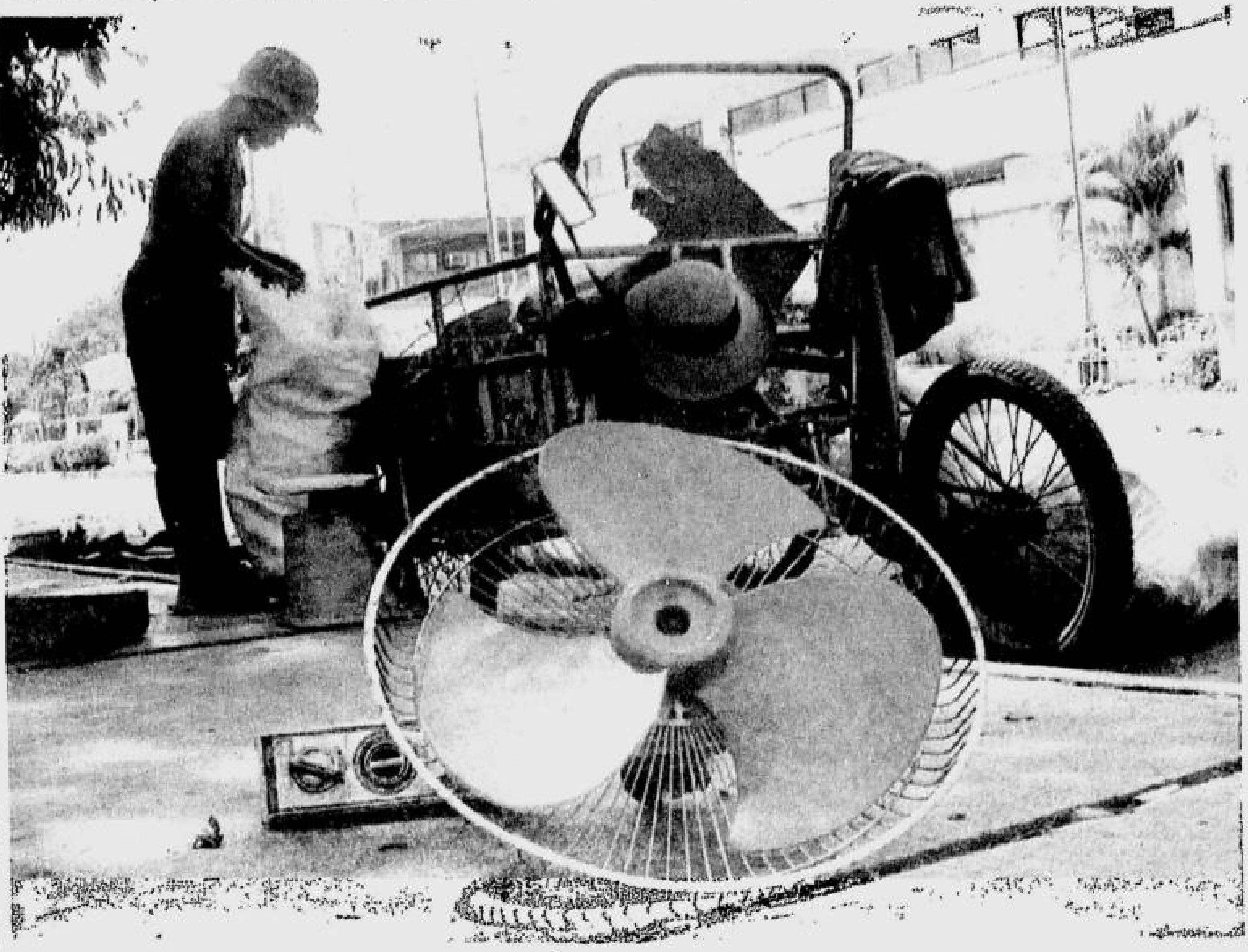
E-mail: pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph

Text us your feedback:
inquirer atn name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

VISAYAS BUREAU
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346/233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
E-mail: inq_cebu@inquirer.com.ph

MINDANAO BUREAU
FEP Printing Corp. Bldg.
Ma-a Road, Davao City
Tel. No. (082)244-1770 to 71
Fax No. (082)244-1771
E-mail: inq_davao@inquirer.com.ph



BING GONZALES/PDI MINDANAO BUREAU

WASTE NOT
A young scavenger weighs the scrap metal and appliance parts that he collected for the day and which he would sell to a junk shop in Davao City.

Silay illegal recruitment victims sue Turkish

BACOLOD CITY—Seven Silay residents yesterday filed before the Silay City police on Thursday a complaint for illegal recruitment against a Turkish national, who promised them work in a hotel in Rome for a fee.

The seven victims filed the complaint after they saw on television on Wednesday news on the arrest of their recruiter, Ismail Urgurlu, in Manila by the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG).

Urgurlu was arrested in an entrapment operation in Manila Tuesday night. He allegedly introduced himself to three Manila complainants he met in an Internet chatroom in February as the European division manager of a firm called Gabriel Thomas International Travel and Tours.

The complainants said the Turk offered them jobs abroad but a check with the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration showed that he had no permit to recruit.

The Silay residents, on hearing the news of the arrest of Urgurlu, went to the Silay police to report that they, too, were recruited by the Turk for jobs in Rome.

Each of them paid Urgurlu P15,000 as placement fee, according to Supt. Celestino Guara, Silay police chief.

One of the victims said they were recruited by Urgurlu to work for the Grand Hotel de La Minerve in Rome. He said five men were recruited as waiters and two women for office work.

The Grand Hotel de la Minerve is described in its website as a renaissance palace with a health club.

The recruit said Urgurlu told them he was connected with Ephesus Tourism and could get them jobs in the hotel in Rome.

He said they met Urgurlu on Good Friday through his fiancée, who is from Silay. *Carla P. Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau*

Quezon cop chief files ₱10-M libel suit vs accusers

THE CHIEF of police of Quezon province has filed a P10-million libel suit against a police officer and a radio commentator who accused him of extortion and masterminding a murder plot against a newsman.

Senior Supt. Leo Kison, Quezon province police chief, filed the case at the Quezon City Regional Trial Court.

He said in his complaint that the accusation made by SPO4 Elizaldy Mendoza of the Cavite police and newsman Jun Mendeja were fabrications.

"Even if it were true, how can I designate such a delicate plot to kill a journalist to someone whom I know has an ax to grind against me for relieving him as commander of the police precinct in Dalahican?" Kison said in a press statement.

Kison relieved Mendoza as commander of the Dalahican Police Community Precinct in June 2004 due to reports of abusive conduct and extortion.

In February, Mendoza was again relieved as head of the warrant section of the Lucena City police and transferred to the Cavite Police Provincial Office on orders from the PNP headquarters.

Mendeja, meanwhile, was included in the complaint for allegedly airing the charges and tirades against Kison in his regular program in a local radio station.

Last month, Kison said he would file criminal and administrative charges against Mendoza.

"I've earned my present rank and reputation through sincere and hard work. I won't let this... simply pass," Kison told newsmen in a press conference on March 8.

In a radio interview in Lucena, Mendoza said Kison ordered him sometime in June last year to liquidate Mendeja, of radio station dzLT in Lucena.

Kison said no meeting between him and Mendoza took place wherein he was supposed to have ordered Mendoza to kill Mendeja.

"There was no meeting... there was also no order from me to kill anyone," he said.

Kison said Mendoza and the broadcaster conspired with each other to discredit him and destroy his reputation.

"*Magkumpare silang dalawa* (They're best of friends)," Kison said.

However, Mendeja dismissed Kison's charges as a last-ditch attempt to distort the real story.

He also denied that he is close to Mendoza.

"As a media professional, I treat all policemen as respected friends. But not the likes of Kison," the radioman said. *Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Baguio water supply going, going... gone

By Vincent Cabreza
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BAGUIO CITY—Government experts confirmed this week that Baguio, the country's summer capital, is facing a shrinking water reserve as the El Niño alert is raised this year.

Five hydro geological studies commissioned or obtained by the Local Water Utilities Administration since 1993 all point to a reserve of 14.1 million cubic meters of water, which represent the only amount of water that may be extracted yearly from Baguio's aquifer.

The city's current population of 252,386 needs approximately 18 million cubic meters of water each year, according to records of the Baguio Water District.

But Baguio has thrived with its own recycling lifestyle due to years of water rationing, said Virgilio Bombeta, a LWUA water management division manager.

"And while people normally [stray from] places with water problems, tourists still come to Baguio," Bombeta said.

More people than water

The city government, however, must mitigate its water resource limitations because the city's population growth has exceeded its water resources, said Ramon Alikpala, executive director of the National Water Resources Board.

Bombeta said the economic impact of uncontrolled population growth in Baguio could be high, unless the city can introduce infrastructure geared toward recycling water, harvesting rainfall and water conservation.

Baguio is developing a city water management board for a water governance project that will be replicated in the country and in cities abroad, according to Pamela Gallares-Oppus, regional manager of the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (Iclei). Iclei is piloting its water management campaign here.

New plans

The local water board intends to draw up ways of restoring the city's water aquifer after it noted lapses in the way Baguio's water utility had managed the city's potable water, said Victor Aquitania, the city's project manager.

A city government survey showed that Baguio has been rationing groundwater supply despite its high rainfall for six months each year.

Bombeta said the city benefits from an average annual rainfall of 3,670 millimeters but most of this run-off water are not contained or absorbed into the aquifer, and end up streaming down from the city's plateau.

Dr. Julie Cabato, one of the resource persons who helped draw up the water management board, said the studies also confirm the inequitable distribution of water in Baguio. Residents endure two ration days of water, she said, while some Baguio hotels, industrial firms and universities are permitted to draw water from unregistered deep wells.

Alikpala said NWRB had licensed only 88 deep well owners in the city, but almost 500 deep wells appear to draw from the city aquifer.

The Baguio survey also discovered 25 percent of the local population in nine barangays has no access to safe potable water because they are not serviced by the BWD.

More consumers

Aquitania said with the local population growth pegged in 2000 at 2.31 percent, water consumption has consequently increased annually by 2.9 percent.

Given these restrictions, each Baguio resident consumes 76 liters of water daily when "the average per capita consumption should be 100 to 120 liters each day," the survey said.

Water quality is also an issue here. BWD-treated water has passed national water standards but its residents continue to boil tap water, Bombeta said.

The Baguio study also explored water pollution, which is largely due to household waste. A city-run sewage treatment plant treats only 19.4 percent of the 42,000 household population in Baguio.

NWRB and LWUA share some responsibility for these lapses, according to the study. Both agencies license private firms and commercial water retailers to draw water from localities, regardless of its actual water reserves, said Aquitania.

Baguio residents spend an additional P1,000 each week buying water from deep well owners to supplement their rations, but no agency monitors the quality or the quantity of water that these independent contractors supply to them, the study said.

DENR clears gov of illegal logging charges

MATI, Davao Oriental—The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) office in Baganga town has cleared Gov. Maria Elena Palma Gil and her son, Jaypot, of illegal logging charges.

Earlier, the regional environment office in Southern Mindanao ordered an investigation against the Palma Gils and several environment officials for the unabated logging operation there.

"Based on the investigation conducted by the community environment and natural resources office, there is no evidence that would prove allegations that they are involved or engaged in illegal logging," Salvador Malbog, provincial environment and natural resources officer, said.

But Malbog said there should be an "independent investigation" of reports linking the governor and her son to illegal logging in the province.

"An independent investigation on the matter would be better. I had earlier suggested that idea," he said.

Clear doubts

Malbog said the independent investigation would clear doubts that there was a whitewash in the DENR investigation.

A DENR official in the province, who asked not to be identified, agreed with Malbog's proposal.

He said that "almost all DENR officials in the province are beholden to local politicians."

"So you don't expect us to just easily pin down local politicians engaged in illegal logging. It's really very hard and dangerous to get in the way of the powerful people in the province," the official said.

Malbog said an independent investigation, which could be spearheaded by antigraft bodies, could also entice witnesses to come forward against Palma Gil and his son.

No case

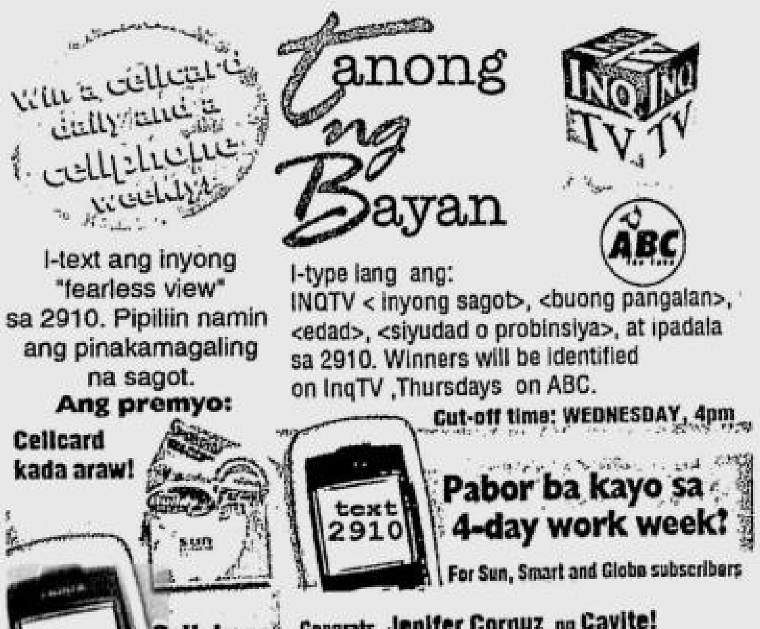
"Up to now, no individual has surfaced to file a formal complaint against the Palma Gils," he said.

Palma Gil has repeatedly denied the allegation against her and her son, which also became a topic in one of the columns of INQUIRER columnist Ramon Tulfo.

Tulfo is a native of Davao Oriental.

"I pity Mon Tulfo. He is a native of Davao Oriental but what he got are wrong (pieces of) information. Worst, he allowed himself to be used by my political opponents to destroy me. What he wrote about me are all lies," Palma Gil told the INQUIRER in denying the charges.

Reacting to the DENR to clear her and her son, Palma Gil said: "From the start, I was already confident that the DENR would clear me... because my conscience is clear. I am not an illegal logger and we have never been engaged in illegal activities. God knows the whole truth, the people of Davao Oriental know the whole truth that their governor is not an illegal logger. You come to my hometown of Cateel, I will lend you my vehicle plus security escorts, and ask the people there whether I am engaged in illegal logging or not," Palma Gil said. *Ferdinand O. Zuasola, PDI Mindanao Bureau*



Win a cellcard daily and a cellphone weekly!

Tanong ng Bayan

INQ TV

ABC

I-text ang inyong "fearless view" sa 2910. Pipiliin namin ang pinakamagaling na sagot.

Ang premyo:

Cellcard kada araw!

Cellphone kada linggo!

This week's prize

I-type lang ang:
INQTV < inyong sagot>, <buong pangalan>, <edad>, <siyudad o probinsiya>, at ipadala sa 2910. Winners will be identified on InqTV ,Thursdays on ABC.

Cut-off time: WEDNESDAY, 4pm

text 2910

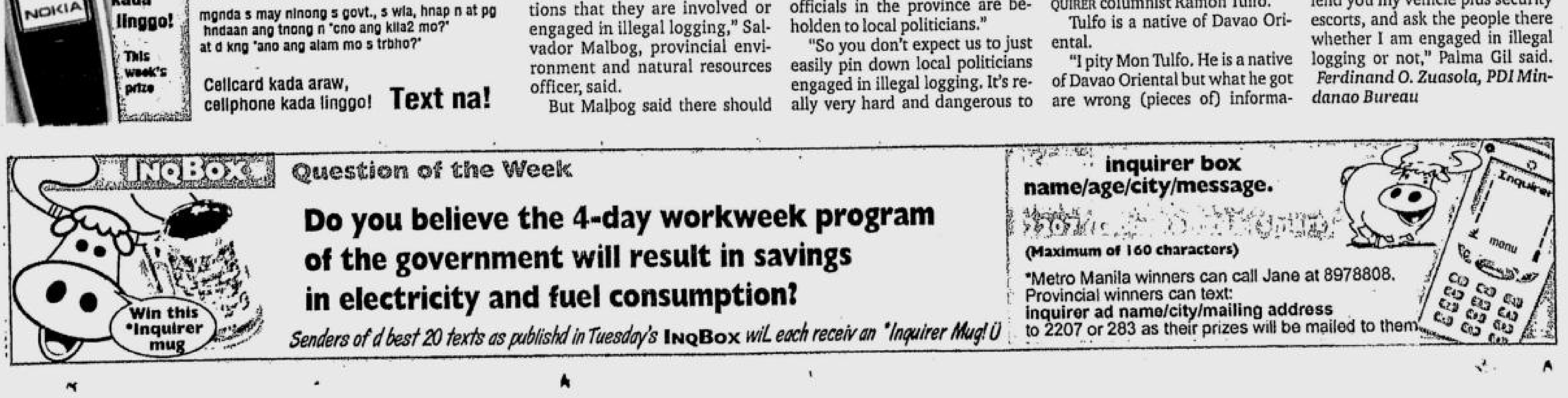
Pabor ba kayo sa 4-day work week?

For Sun, Smart and Globe subscribers

Congrats, Jenifer Corpuz ng Cavite!
Nanalo ka ng Nokia 2600!

mgnda s may ninong s govt., s wla, hnap n at pg hndaan ang tnong n "cno ang kila2 mo?" at d kng "ano ang alam mo s trbho?"

Cellcard kada araw, cellphone kada linggo! **Text na!**



InqBox Question of the Week

Do you believe the 4-day workweek program of the government will result in savings in electricity and fuel consumption?

Win this *Inquirer mug

Senders of d best 20 texts as publishd in Tuesday's InqBox *wiL each receiv an "Inquirer Mug! Ü*

inquirer box name/age/city/message.

(Maximum of 160 characters)

*Metro Manila winners can call Jane at 8978808.
Provincial winners can text:
inquirer ad name/city/mailing address
to 2207 or 283 as their prizes will be mailed to them

Pope gravely ill but still 'conscious, lucid'

From page A1

with his surroundings," Fr. Konrad Hejmo, a close friend of the Pope and responsible for Polish pilgrims to the Vatican, told Poland's TVN24 news channel.

As news of the Pope's crisis spread, hundreds of followers gathered near the Vatican, some praying, some crying.

Authorities had sealed off St. Peter's Square but the faithful filled the surrounding streets.

Lost 42 lb

Vatican sources said the Pontiff, who suffers from Parkinson's disease, had lost some 19 kilograms, or 42 lb, since his throat operation on Feb. 24.

Italian Cardinal Achille Silvestrini underlined that the announcement by the Vatican—which usually refrains from making alarming statements—"means that there is really a lot of fear and that maybe they want us to understand to prepare for the worst."

Lights turned off

In an ominous sign, the lights of the Pope's apartment were turned on and later switched off and only the lights of the papal infirmary were on early Friday.

Italian newspapers were filled with gloom.

Libero daily wrote: "The Pope can't make it."

The sickness of the Pope, who appeared visibly thinner and frail in his last appearance at his window on Wednesday, has raised concerns of a power vacuum at the top of the Church.

Some observers have reported that the close circle of cardinals around the Pope had made "a pact" to maintain the status quo as uncertainty over his health continued.

No stepping down

A key Vatican insider, Vittorio Messori, said Thursday the Pope would not step down "whatever happens, whatever the evolution of John Paul II's illnesses."

After a Pope dies, cardinals from around the world are called to Rome to choose a successor at a conclave which starts in the Vatican's Sistine Chapel 15 to 20 days after the death.

There is no favorite candidate to take over as head of the Church and Karol Wojtyla himself was seen as a rank outsider before he was elected in October 1978.

Under new election rules intended to prevent interminable conclaves, if no one has been elected by a two-thirds majority after 30 ballots, the cardinals may vote to elect the Pope by an absolute majority of half-plus-one.

At the start of the conclave, the great bronze door of the apostolic palace is shut and all the doors and windows are closed with lead seals.

In the past, the cardinals had to live in spartan quarters in the palace itself, but this time they will stay in hotel-style rooms in a Vatican hostelry called Santa Martha House.

Oath of secrecy

Their staff, including a doctor, a cook and several nuns, are sworn to secrecy on pain of excommunication.

The cardinals also take an oath of secrecy.

In theory, the election is guided by the Holy Spirit. In practice, there is furious politicking as soon as the cardinals start arriving in Rome.

Cardinals are not allowed to vote for themselves.

Daunting challenge

Whoever should replace John Paul faces a daunting challenge.

History's third longest reigning Pope and the 263rd successor to St. Peter has revolutionized his office and taken his sometimes controversial message far beyond the confines of the tiny Vatican state, making him a truly global figure.

But his health had declined steadily over the past decade, worn down by debilitating Parkinson's disease. He had been seriously ill for most of the past two months and had failed to recover from recent throat surgery aimed at helping him breathe.

'Great Communicator'

Once dubbed the "Great Communicator," he has been unable to speak in public since he last left hospital on March 13, with a tube to help him breathe inserted in his windpipe.

Images of a gaunt pained John Paul, his body ravaged by Parkinson's and arthritis, have offered a stark gloomy contrast to archive film of the sprightly, smiling Wojtyla striding onto the world stage on Oct. 16, 1978.

Papal legacies

When the little-known cardinal from Krakow was elected Pontiff, few could have predicted that the first non-Italian Pope in nearly 500 years would throw off the stiff trappings of the papacy, travel the globe and leave his mark on history.

Historians say one of his major legacies will remain his role in the fall of communism in Europe in 1989.

Dreams

Just over a decade later, the Pope fulfilled another of his dreams. He visited the Holy Land in March 2000, and, praying at Jerusalem's Western Wall, asked forgiveness for Catholic sins against Jews over the centuries.

He had seemed as much at ease lecturing dictators of the left and the right as he had telling leaders of world democracies that unbridled capitalism and globalization were no panacea for the world's post-Cold War problems.

But many Catholics, especially in the developed world, had taken issue with his hardline proclamations against contraception, abortion, married priests and women clergy. *AFP, Reuters*

From Poland to RP, crisis unites world's faithful

From page A1

Lord of life," he said in a statement.

The Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines also asked for "fervent" prayers for the Pontiff.

"We entrust the Pope whom Filipinos love with special affection to the will of God," Msgr. Hernando Coronel, CBCP secretary general, said in a statement.

Bishop in tears

Coronel said bishops were not thinking about the possibility of the Pope dying. But he admitted that some had been overcome with emotion.

"Some have cried," he said, referring to Butuan Bishop Jesus Pueblos, who cried during a radio interview.

Sin's successor, Archbishop Gaudencio Rosales, asked Catholics to be "one in the spirit of prayer for his health, at this peculiar need of the Holy Father."

"We all love the Holy Father and we Filipinos have a very special place in his heart," he said. "Let this be an expression of our deep love for the Holy Father and for the Church he has generously and courageously guided and served."

"He loves the Philippines," Coronel said, citing his visits in 1981 and in 1995 for the World Youth Day celebration. "The Vatican has chosen our country for special church events, emphasizing on the youth, the family. There is something in us, our good values."

In the darkness of the night, white candles illuminated the Edsa Shrine as hundreds of people whispered prayers for Pope John Paul II.

People gathered in the Our Lady Queen of Peace Chapel and offered a Mass for him about 5 p.m. yesterday.

"We pray that the heart of Christ be very close to the Holy Father at this time of his suffering," Mass celebrant Fr. Catalino Arevalo said during his homily.

He said nobody knew God's will for the Pope. But he said the Pope was also praying that God's will would prevail.

"If the Lord wants to take him because he had devoted all his life to the Church, then that will be good. But if the Lord wants the Pope to continue his service, we also pray for that," Arevalo later told reporters.

"Let us pray for whatever God's will will be," he added.

Engineer Julius Lacalma, 38, learned about the Mass from the radio while he was on his way to work. From work in San Juan, he decided to attend the Mass and light a candle before going home to Caloocan City. Arevalo said Filipinos had a special place in the heart of Pope John Paul II.

"He was very much moved by the warmth of the Filipinos. We have shown him very great affection," he said, referring to the huge crowd which welcomed the Pope here.

"Let us pay back a little bit of that tremendous love (by) praying with all our heart for him," Arevalo also said.

Birthplace

In Wadowice, the southern Polish town where the Pope grew up, people abandoned school and work to pray in the town's church after the health of the nation's best-known son took a dramatic turn for the worse.

"The only way we can help him is by prayer," said 17-year-old Danuta Chowaniec, one of the worshippers at St. Mary's Church, where the Pope—Karol Wojtyla—has been baptized.

"In spite of these alarming statements from the Vatican that he is really worse, I still hope he improves."

Krystian Zajac, 47, a plumbing company employee, came to the church in tears.

"This situation is so difficult. I took time off from work to come and pray," he said. "This is the will of God, we just have to pray, everything is in the hands of God."

Sympathy crossed religious boundaries for John Paul, who had worked for better relations with both Jews and Muslims.

Muslims, too

Muslims in France were praying for the Pontiff, leading French Muslim Dalil Boubakeur said, describing him as a "man of peace."

"For us Muslims, he is a man of God, a man who wanted to serve God by serving humanity," said Boubakeur, who is president of the French Council of the Muslim Faith.

In London, Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor, the archbishop of Westminster, reflected on the "extraordinary papacy" of John Paul.

"In some way he's moved the role of ... his ministry very much, not just for Roman Catholics, not even for fellow Christians ... but other faiths, indeed the whole world," he said.

"He's been a moral voice, and in that sense I think the papacy and what it represents has an even more significant role in the world than it ever had before."

At a tiny cloister on the Lofoten Islands, off Norway and 180 km north of the Arctic Circle, three Polish monks prayed.

"We pray for him as we do every day," said Dariusz Banasiak, superior of the Cister Monastery. "Our prayers are more intense today..."

AP with reports from Christian V. Esguerra, Christine O. Avendaño and Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

Silver hammer means end

BY TRADITION, when a Pope dies, the prefect of the papal household, currently US Archbishop James Harvey, tells the camerlengo (chamberlain), who is the most important official running the Holy See in the period between the death of a Pope and the election of a new one.

The camerlengo, now Cardinal Eduardo Martinez Somalo of Spain, must verify the death—a process which in the past was done by striking the forehead of the Pope with a silver hammer.

The camerlengo then tells the vicar of Rome, who then informs the people of the city.

The prefect of the papal household then tells the dean of the College of Cardinals, who then formally informs the rest of the college, ambassadors accredited to the Holy See, and heads of state around the world. *AP*

Battle rages over ...

From page A1

ine the extent of the brain injury that had left her severely handicapped.

Schiavo's death was announced 13 days after her feeding tube was disconnected, at around 9:45 a.m. Thursday by a spokesperson for her parents in a case that had provoked huge emotion in the United States, even drawing in US President George W. Bush.

Michael Schiavo, her husband, cradled his wife as she succumbed to "a calm, peaceful and gentle death," his attorney, George Felos, said.

Activists weep

Pro-life activists gathered outside the hospice where Schiavo had been cared for for more than five years, wept and embraced each other after the news was announced.

Her husband and her parents, Bob and Mary Schindler, and siblings, who wrangled over whether she should die right to the end, kept up their hostility.

Conservative US leaders maintained their support for the parents' fight.

"We promised the Schindler family that we will not let Terri die in vain," said House Majority Leader Tom DeLay. "There's a bill that the House passed two weeks ago sitting in the Senate—the Senate could pick that bill up and pass it—that deals with this issue on a general basis.

"We will look at an arrogant, out-of-control, unaccountable judiciary that thumbed their nose at Congress and the President. When given the jurisdiction to hear this case anew and look at all the facts and make a determination, they chose not to participate, contrary to what Congress and the President asked them to do. We will look into that."

15 years in coma

Schiavo, 41, died after some 15 years in what doctors called a "persistent vegetative state" and more than 20 court cases and state legislature hearing in seven years over whether her artificial lifeline should be cut.

Michael Schiavo said his wife—who suffered brain damage after heart failure in 1990—had told him she would not want to be kept alive in such a helpless state. Her parents said she could improve with treatment.

The courts repeatedly backed the husband. The Supreme Court refused a sixth application by the parents to get involved a few hours before Schiavo died. President Bush and other conservative leaders backed the Schindlers. Congress passed a law after the tube was taken out on March 18 aimed at helping the parents. *AFP*

Ang CONDONATION PROGRAM ng SSS!

Good news pare! Di ba may matagal ka nang utang sa SSS? May SSS Condonation Program na!

Talaga? Yan ba yung pwedeng magbayad ng utang sa SSS ng walang multa?

Oo pare. Espesyal na regalo ito ng SSS para sa mga miyembrong may salary, calamity, emergency, educational, study-now-pay-later plan, vocational/technical student o Y2k loans. Lahat ng member-borrowers na huli na sa pagbabayad as of September 30, 2004 ay kuwalipikado.

Aba, ok yan ah! Sinu-sino pa ang pwedeng sumali?

Depende sa contingency date, pwede ring makasali ang mga magpa-file ng retirement, death at total disability benefit claims.

Magandang balita nga yan, pare! Hanggang kelan ba maaaring mag-avail nito?

Sinimulan ito noong Oktubre 1, 2004 at tatagal hanggang Setyembre 30, 2005. Maaaring bayaran ang outstanding balance at interest ng buo o hulugan sa loob ng availment period. May chance ka pang sumali at manalo ng P5,000 sa ilalim ng Delinquency Assistance Program nila!

Salamat sa balita pare! Hindi ko talaga palalampasin ang pagkakataong ito!

-End-

Kaya mga pare at mare, mag-*apply* na sa pinakamalapit na SSS branch NGAYON!

SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM
Kabalikat mo sa Buhay
visit: www.sss.gov.ph; email: member_relations@sss.gov.ph

Para sa karagdagang detalye, tumawag sa 920-6401 up to 45
920-6446 up to 55

Janjalani alive, vows to avenge Abu jail deaths

From page A1

of his, did lead the group that tried to escape from jail.

Janjalani apparently is not just the leader of the Abu Sayyaf. An intelligence report submitted in 2003 to Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita identified the ASG Emir as also the head in the Philippines of the Southeast Asian regional militant network Jemaah Islamiyah (JI).

Asked about the report that he was now local JI head, Janjalani said: "Is that important? It makes no difference, I am still a wanted man."

He has a $5-million reward on his head from the US government and another P25-million reward from the Philippine government.

Janjalani was initially reported by the military's Southern Command to have been killed in an air strike in Maguindanao last Nov. 19.

This reporter got a similar story from an intimate of Janjalani and from his parents.

Was the information that he was "dead" disseminated to deceive the authorities who were pursuing the most wanted man in the country?

Mistaken identity

Were his relatives used to sow confusion?

"Although it may be seen as a deception, it was not intended to be that way," Janjalani said. "I lost communication contact with my people for a long time and there was really someone killed in that strike, whom they thought was me."

"It was only recently that my communication was restored."

Janjalani admitted he was in the area hit by the air strike but said he was not even wounded.

Death rumors

On the day he called this reporter, text messages circulated in Mindanao that—again—he was dead.

The message in Tagalog and received by Mindanao-based media read: "Janjalani supposedly died 6 a.m. in Cotabato as a result of previous wound in an encounter. The source is one Ustadz Mubin and the body is reportedly already in Palimbang."

A Cotabato journalist told this reporter he got the same message from Eid Kabalu, spokesperson of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF).

This reporter texted Kabalu, who replied: "That's still for confirmation."

When he called this reporter, Janjalani sounded amused on learning about the text messages.

Valentine's Day bombings

"Maybe you are talking with a ghost," he quipped.

"Isn't it that if you are supposed to be dead, the more difficult it is to kill you. I am not afraid to die. The problem is I'm still alive," he said in Tagalog.

When Indonesian and alleged JI member Rohmat, alias Zaki, was arrested in Central Mindanao by Army operatives recently, one of his supposed revelations was that Janjalani and another Abu Sayyaf commander, Abu Solaiman, planned the Feb. 14 bombings in the cities of Makati, Davao and General Santos.

Before the Lenten season, Solaiman issued statements to media warning of retaliation for the killing of his comrades in Camp Bagong Diwa.

This prompted increased security in Metro Manila and other key cities.

No time limit to bombs

Asked about Solaiman's reported threat, Janjalani said the statement Solaiman issued had "no time frame, and still holds water."

"It is just simply done," Janjalani bragged on the phone.

Janjalani said he also had a personal message for new PNP chief Director General Arturo Lomibao.

"I have a message for the No. 1 in the PNP now. *Pasensiyahan, trabaho lang* (Sorry, this is all just work)."

Janjalani and Lomibao first met in 1995 when Janjalani was detained for three months in Camp Crame.

Impression of Lomibao

Lomibao's first impression of Janjalani then was: "Timid, soft spoken, as though he can't even break a glass plate."

Janjalani's first impression of Lomibao then was: "He seems soft but intelligent. Maybe he is really just a kind man because he talks to you decently."

The 2003 intelligence report which Ermita got concerning Janjalani's supposed rise as head of the Philippine operation of the JI came from a retired Armed Forces general who still maintains "assets" and contacts in Mindanao.

The general said that based on his "sources that are actually within physical reach monitoring the JI activities in Mindanao, Janjalani was chosen because of his deep sense of religiosity and commitment."

'One mission, one body'

"His charisma was also a factor, plus his rigid military training," the general added.

Why was the general still involved in intelligence work considering that he had long left the military service?

"It's a lifelong obsession since I was the first one who warned about the group as early as 1988. Besides, I have very reliable field sources who continue to feed me reports simply because they are worried about the extent of how the JI trainings are now progressing in Central Mindanao," the retired general told this reporter.

Asked about Janjalani as local JI leader, Solaiman said in a separate interview: "If we and the other group have the same mission and belief, then we are Jemaah. One mission, one body. The truth is that all Muslims should be part of one Jemaah. One group, one belief."

Training camps

The 2003 Intelligence Analysis submitted by the retired general also tackled "actual trainings" done regularly and lasting for three months per course in various camps in Central Mindanao.

A Singapore-based Homeland security expert recently warned that Central Mindanao continued to be used as "converging point" of JI training.

"The truth is, Janjalani is leading the trainings himself, specially in bomb-making and Islamic Jihad," the retired general said.

In the same 2003 report he submitted to Ermita, he said the training was held in at least two main camps situated 5-7 km from identified MILF bases.

Camp Jubal Kubah was mentioned as one of the camps used "mainly for JI training" of volunteers, including Indonesians, Pakistanis, Malaysians and Filipinos.

"At one time, that camp was filled with 400 recruits!" the ex-general said.

Most of the Filipino recruits were Balik-Islam (Muslim converts) and those referred to as "Kalibugan," which meant half-native-half-Muslim young males from the Siocon-Siraway area.

Threat serious

MILF local commanders were identified in the report as "supporters and believers of JI."

The MILF leadership has repeatedly denied any ties with the JI and the ASG.

The retired general said the ASG threat should be taken seriously.

"Let's just pray our government is five, ten steps ahead so that the actual mission could be crashed," he said.

Nora Aunor ...

From page A1

checkpoint at about 8:30 p.m. after screeners found drugs and a glass pipe wrapped in a T-shirt in her bag, said Jennifer Peppin, a spokesperson for the Transportation Security Administration, who identified Aunor only as a "female suspect" and not by name.

Police found about 8 grams of methamphetamine in a film container, a law enforcement source said, according to the Daily Breeze of Torrance.

Jailed

Aunor was booked under her real name—Nora Cabaltera Villamayor—at the Van Nuys jail on a felony drug possession count and was released at 6:50 a.m. Thursday after posting $10,000 bail, according to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department website. A hearing is scheduled for April 21 at the Airport Courthouse.

Carson City Councilman Elito Santarina, who is Filipino-American, said Aunor was a big star throughout Asia. Her nickname was "The Superstar" and she had recorded more than two dozen albums and made more than 170 movies.

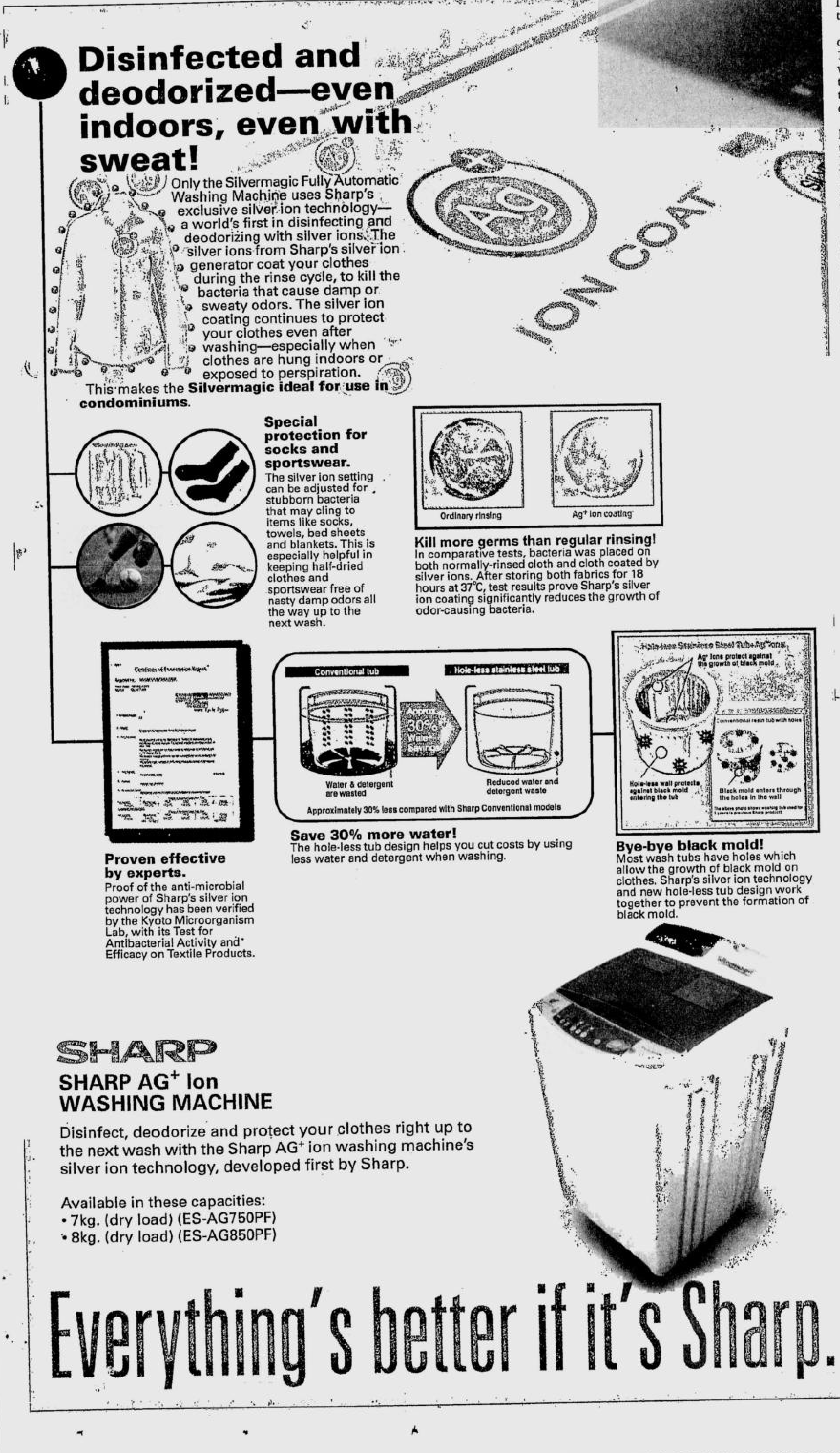
"Oh my God, I'm shocked to hear this," Santarina said when told of Aunor's arrest. "She's just so popular, just like our American superstars."

As an actress, she starred alongside the leading men of her era, including Joseph Estrada, who went on to become the country's president. But some reports in the Philippine media said she had a reputation for being difficult to work with.

These days, Aunor, a Philippine citizen, spends much of her time in the United States and owns a home in Linda Vista near San Diego, according to her fan sites.

Three sources who spoke on condition of anonymity said Aunor arrived at LAX from Oakland at around 7:45 p.m. Wednesday and was scheduled to fly back to Oakland at either 9 or 10 p.m. One said she was carrying a passport in her real name and other identification using her stage name.

An official from the Philippine Consulate in Los Angeles did not return telephone messages seeking comment on Aunor's arrest and asking whether consular officials knew how to contact her.


Disinfected and deodorized—even indoors, even with sweat!

Only the Silvermagic Fully Automatic Washing Machine uses Sharp's exclusive silver ion technology—a world's first in disinfecting and deodorizing with silver ions. The silver ions from Sharp's silver ion generator coat your clothes during the rinse cycle, to kill the bacteria that cause damp or sweaty odors. The silver ion coating continues to protect your clothes even after washing—especially when clothes are hung indoors or exposed to perspiration.

This makes the **Silvermagic ideal for use in condominiums.**

Special protection for socks and sportswear.
The silver ion setting can be adjusted for stubborn bacteria that may cling to items like socks, towels, bed sheets and blankets. This is especially helpful in keeping half-dried clothes and sportswear free of nasty damp odors all the way up to the next wash.

Kill more germs than regular rinsing!
In comparative tests, bacteria was placed on both normally-rinsed cloth and cloth coated by silver ions. After storing both fabrics for 18 hours at 37°C, test results prove Sharp's silver ion coating significantly reduces the growth of odor-causing bacteria.

Proven effective by experts.
Proof of the anti-microbial power of Sharp's silver ion technology has been verified by the Kyoto Microorganism Lab, with its Test for Antibacterial Activity and Efficacy on Textile Products.

Save 30% more water!
The hole-less tub design helps you cut costs by using less water and detergent when washing.

Bye-bye black mold!
Most wash tubs have holes which allow the growth of black mold on clothes. Sharp's silver ion technology and new hole-less tub design work together to prevent the formation of black mold.

SHARP

SHARP AG$^+$ Ion WASHING MACHINE

Disinfect, deodorize and protect your clothes right up to the next wash with the Sharp AG$^+$ ion washing machine's silver ion technology, developed first by Sharp.

Available in these capacities:
- 7kg. (dry load) (ES-AG750PF)
- 8kg. (dry load) (ES-AG850PF)

Everything's better if it's Sharp.

Ag
ION COAT
Ordinary rinsing
Ag$^+$ ion coating
Certificate of Examination Report
Conventional tub
Hole-less stainless steel tub
Approx. 30% Water Saving
Water & detergent are wasted
Reduced water and detergent waste
Approximately 30% less compared with Sharp Conventional models
Hole-less Stainless Steel Tub+Ag$^+$ ions
Ag$^+$ Ions protect against the growth of black mold
Conventional resin tub with holes
Hole-less wall protects against black mold entering the tub
Black mold enters through the holes in the wall

METRO
E-mail: pr_metro@inquirer.com.ph
Editor Ester G. Dipasupil ■ Assistant Editor Cenon B. Bibe Jr.

EZ2	SUERTRES	FOUR DIGIT	MEGALOTTO 6/45	SWEEPSTAKES
30 18	4 1 4	9 8 7 8	6 17 20 28 42 43	3 8 2 4 4 5 L
	(In exact order)		₱5,706,485.40	₱100,000.00

Text us your feedback:
inquirer met name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Makati-MMDA row delays C5 project

PRETEND POOL
A boy plays billiards using an improvised billiard table, marbles and a cue stick, with playmates in the neighborhood as kibitzers. JOSEPH AGCAOILI

By Leila B. Salaverria

WHILE the Makati City government and the Metro Manila Development Authority are still at odds on how to improve the traffic flow at the controversial C5-Kalayaan intersection, the Department of Public Works and Highways said it has been ready with a plan for a year now to build an interchange in the area to ease the plight of traffic-weary motorists.

The interchange, a series of multi-level roads, would allow vehicles to cross an area, without affecting the traffic flow on one road.

Japanese loan

Carlos Badion, an engineer at the DPWH's Urban Road Planning Office said that despite their readiness, the project has to wait because the MMDA is still assessing the effectiveness of the U-turn scheme it had implemented.

He added that if MMDA decides not to implement the U-turn slots scheme, the DPWH is ready to begin construction of the interchange any time. The P500 million project would be funded by a loan from the Japanese government.

However, the DPWH may have to wait longer for the MMDA's decision because the Makati City government had closed the U-turn slots and returned the use of the traffic lights in the area.

The city government said the U-turn slots did not help motorists because the slots increased the travel time. The MMDA claimed the reverse was true.

No design yet

But the MMDA said yesterday that the DPWH and the agency had yet to agree on what design would work better for the C5-Kalayaan intersection.

"We are going to meet again with DPWH officials next week to clarify things and to make a technical evaluation," said MMDA Deputy Chair Cesar Lacuna.

While the DPWH had designed an underpass, the MMDA proposed the construction of elevated U-turn slots.

The two proposals are both aimed at relieving the traffic congestion on the intersection.

For the Makati city government, however, the matter is between the DPWH and MMDA.

"It's between the two agencies. We are for whatever would work better and which could solve the traffic problems faster," said Joey Salgado, Makati Information and Community Relations Department Head.

Free funeral for QC cops, firefighters

By DJ Yap

QUEZON City cops and firefighters who die in the line of duty will soon get free funeral services—from embalming to interment.

This was provided for in a memorandum of agreement (MOA) between the city government and La Funeraria Paz signed yesterday. Covered in the agreement are police officers, fire fighters and barangay security development officers.

The "special memorial service package" covers the retrieval of remains from the place of death, body preparation including embalming and application of cosmetics, wooden casket, use of viewing chapels, interment or cremation documentation, funeral personnel service, and use of vehicles from the viewing place to the interment or cremation site.

Central Police District Director Nicasio Radovan Jr. said the agreement was a "morale booster" for police officers who no longer had to worry about how their family would pay for funeral costs, should they die at work.

Quezon City social services department head Tess Mariano commended La Funeraria Paz for making the offer.

"La Funeraria Paz has always been helpful to the city government, even during the 2002 Payatas tragedy when they offered to help us bury the victims," she said.

The MOA was signed by Mayor Feliciano Belmonte Jr. and La Funeraria Paz president Jose Gonzales Jr.

The funeral package is available to 10 people in each department every year. Services are limited to five days and subject to the availability of funeral facilities.

Jeepney, bus groups petition for fare hike

By Clarissa S. Batino

JEEPNEY and bus groups filed yesterday with the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) separate petitions to increase fares because of increasing fuel prices.

Jeeps asked for a P2.50 increase in fare for the first four kilometers and an additional 25 centavos per kilometer. Ordinary buses in Metro Manila sought a P3 hike for the first five kilometers and 60 centavos for each additional kilometer.

An earlier petition by a jeepney group for a P2 adjustment was withdrawn.

Jeepney groups also asked for immediate relief through a P1 provisional increase, which, according to lawyer Vigor Mendoza, need not go through a hearing. Bus groups did not ask for a provisional hike.

Jeepneys currently charge a minimum of P5.50 for the first four kilometers and P1 for every additional kilometer. Ordinary metro buses charge P6 for the first five kilometers and P1.25 for each additional kilometer.

Diesel price rise

Transport groups said the price of diesel had gone up from P18.10 per liter in June to more than P26 a liter.

The petition was signed by 17 transport groups including the Federation of Jeepney Operators and Drivers of the Philippines (Fejodap), Pinagkaisang Samahan ng mga Tsuper at Operators Nationwide and The Philippine Confederation of Drivers Organization-Alliance of Concerned Transportation Operators.

Mendoza, lawyer for Fejodap and other transport groups said the groups originally wanted a P3-fare hike, plus an additional 85 centavos in anticipation of the effects of the revised value-added tax.

The non-inclusion of a VAT resulted in a lower fare hike petition.

The transport groups, during a meeting yesterday, decided to hold a motorcade in the coming week to protest the inclusion of fuel products in the proposed expanded VAT, as well what they said was the increasing interference by the Department of Transportation and Communications with a quasi-judicial body like the LTFRB.

Airconditioned and provincial buses are scheduled to submit their own petitions in the coming weeks.

"We have exhausted all our options and we have no choice but to ask for a fare increase after the alternatives we presented like a uniform ticketing system, a P1 per liter discount on diesel and a level playing field were ignored by the authorities," said Mendoza.

Based on the group's rough calculations, Mendoza said the minimum fare should increase by P2.50 and the fare for each additional kilometer should go up by 25 centavos due to the 45 percent increase in the price of diesel.

He said transport groups also took into account the impact of a 20 percent discount given to senior citizens and students.

"We estimate the 20 percent discount to amount to something similar to a P1 per liter discount on diesel. That is the impact on transport groups," the lawyer added.

If the proposed bill imposing a VAT on petroleum products would be approved, fuel prices would increase further.

'Bote' buyers join garbage campaign

By Jocelyn R. Uy

IN LAS Piñas City, *bote-dyaryo* (discarded bottles and old newspapers) buyers have become part of an intensified garbage collection campaign.

The city's vigorous fight against garbage appear to be making a difference. Recent statistics from the city's Environment and Sanitation Center showed a significant decrease in the volume of garbage collected this year.

Data showed a 150-cubic meter reduction in garbage collection.

In 2003-2004, daily garbage collection was 750 cubic meters. This dropped to 600 in the first three months of this year.

Continuing its efforts, the city created the Segregation, Recycling and Composting committee or Segrecom composed of the Federation of Las Piñas Homeowners Association and independent homeowners' association, social civic organizations and barangay officials.

City Mayor Imelda Villar said the involvement of the groups, including the business sector's support, was the key to a more successful waste-reduction campaign.

Proper waste management would be promoted in communities, business establishments and schools, Aguilar said.

Peace awardees honored

THE INTERNATIONAL Association of Educators for World Peace, a United Nations non-government organization and recipient of the UN International Messenger of Peace award will honor six awardees on Sunday, 7:30 p.m. at the Rigodon Ballroom of the Peninsula Manila hotel.

The IAEWP-Philippines is chaired by its National Chancellor, Dr. Josef de Ubaldo, DSc.

This year's awardees are Lolita Escobar-Mirpuri for International Understanding and Community Relations; Baby Escueta-Luat for Education and Communication; Ma. Aleli V. Pansacola for Environment; Dr. Mary Jean Ebuenga-Acero, for Complementary and Alternative Medicine; Cory Quirino for Health and Wellness, and Noel V. Gonzales for Entrepreneurship.

Honesty not a virtue of many Pinoys

ON TARGET
Ramon Tulfo

A JANITOR and a janitress at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (Naia) and domestic airport made big news yesterday when they returned money and valuables left by departing passengers.

Romeo Pelaez of Naia returned the yen equivalent of P1.5 million in a bag he found while cleaning a Japan Airlines jetliner.

Nita Ramos of the domestic airport turned over a box containing jewelry worth between P150,000 and P200,000 she found while cleaning the ladies toilet at the pre-departure area.

Had other people found those lost money and valuables, do you think they would have been returned? You'd be naïve if you said they would have been returned.

That's why Pelaez and Ramos should be extolled to high heavens. They are a rare breed of Filipinos.

In Japan, such honesty would seldom make news. Why? Because most people in Japan would return lost items.

A friend left her handbag with a wallet inside a department store in Tokyo. She noticed the loss when she got back to her hotel room. When she came back for her handbag at the department store, the handbag was still there where she had left it. Nobody touched it.

* * *

Can you blame a Filipino taxi driver if he steals the money left in his cab by a passenger when the practice would have been to keep the lost item?

If the cabbie was honest enough to return the bag full of money to his passenger, he would be branded as "stupid" or *"tanga"* by his fellow drivers.

There ought to be a moral regeneration or reawakening among Filipinos. The Rotary Club is off to a good start in disseminating posters saying, "be honest even if others are not."

Peer pressure or going with the current is the reason behind the ordinary Filipino's violating legal and moral codes: Everybody's doing it, so why don't I?

A driver who stops at a red light gets honked at by drivers behind him into passing it. I seldom see a driver stop at a red light when there are no vehicles or pedestrians.

* * *

Prosecutor Nicolas Senoren of Calapan, Oriental Mindoro, should be penalized to the fullest extent of the law for reportedly molesting a 15-year-old girl inside his office.

The girl and her 20-year-old sister, a rape victim, came to his office to seek his advice on the criminal case they filed against the rapists. The 15-year-old girl was an eyewitness to the rape.

Senoren allegedly told the rape victim to leave the room on the pretext of interviewing the minor.

When the sister was gone, Senoren allegedly mashed the poor girl and touched her most private parts. The mashing was so intense, according to the victim, her breast hurt. The girl was in her school uniform at the time.

We at "Isumbong mo kay Tulfo" have referred the case to Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez who promised to expedite the filing of the case against the libidinous prosecutor.

* * *

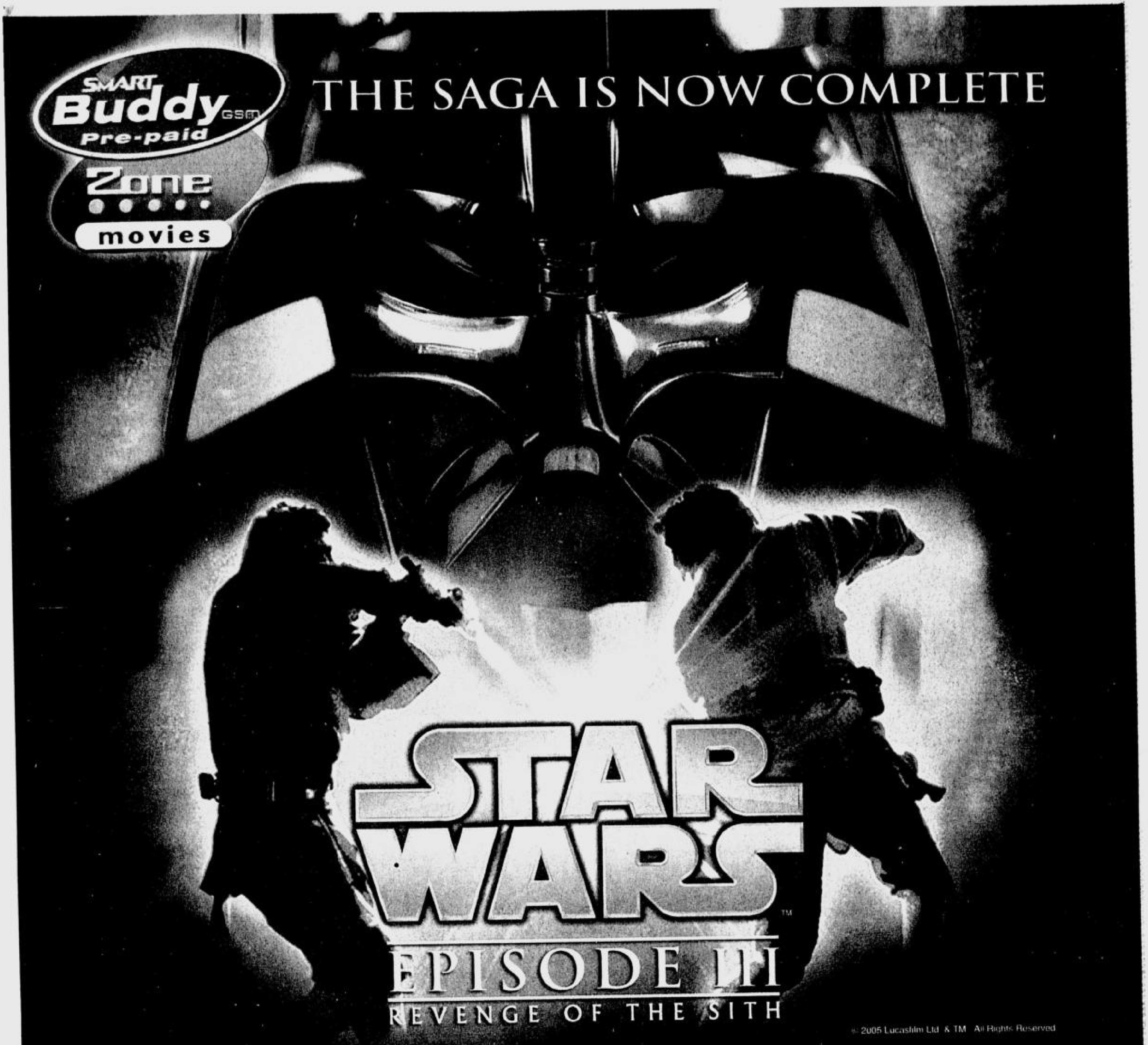
Remember Ricky Romualdo, a mechanic who was framed by Quezon City policemen but who was acquitted of drug pushing charges last year?

Tom del Castillo, the private lawyer prosecuting the case against the cops free of charge, is now too indisposed to handle the case further. But another lawyer as capable as Tom has volunteered to pick up where the kindhearted Tom left off. He is Vicente Chuidian who will also offer his services to Romualdo for free.

SAGUPAAN
50 COMPLEXOR 3000 SUPER TRIOS RAFFLE PROMO
NATIONAL GRAND DRAW WINNERS

JOEDEL UY
Pagadian City
ALFONSO DULLA
Polomolok, South Cotabato
JUN MADLANGBAYAN
Sibalom, Antique
ALFREDO JAEN
Taguig City, MM
BART D. DAVID
Concepcion, Tarlac
EMELIANO CAMAY JR.
Bogo, Cebu
ELIMAR M. VENTURA
Mexico, Pampanga
RICARDO S. MANLIPAD
Brooke's Point, Palawan
RONALD MATALA
Rosario, Batangas
JUN DUMAGAS
Calasiao, Pangasinan
TERESITO EUSEBIO DELOS SANTOS
Iligan City
BERNARDO LIGAN JR.
Capitol Hills, Cebu City
EDWIN S. CALAUSTRO
Mabalacat, Pampanga
VICTORIANO O. RAMOS
Cabacan, Cotabato
MANUEL A. AGUIRAN
Quezon City, MM
CESAR R. ANGELES.
Jaro, Iloilo City
RICHARD JOHN ELSAR
Cardona, Rizal
JESSIE C. FRACA
Laoag City
ROMEO A. BANDIGAN
Mati, Davao Oriental
MICHAEL A. LAVIÑA
Sta. Maria, Zamboanga

CONGRATULATIONS!
PROMO PERIOD:
DEC. 1, 2004 to
FEB. 28, 2005
Per DTI-NCR Permit No.
7933 series of 2004
ALAGANG SAGUPAAN... LAMANG KA SA PANALO!



Get the complete *Star Wars saga* experience as Smart Buddy brings you the most anticipated final episode of *Star Wars*!
Download from the selection of exclusive *Star Wars Episode III: Revenge of the Sith* tones, images, and more!
Plus get a chance to win *Star Wars* Collectibles, Canon Digital IXUS IIs Cameras, iPod Shuffles and a Peugeot 206CC Sports Car in the Grand Draw!

Switch to the SMART side and experience THE FORCE NOW!

TEXT STARWARS TO 291

Subscription Services*

To subscribe to:	Send to 291
Daily Calendar Logos	**SWCAL ON**
Daily MMS Calendars	**SWCALMMS ON**
Daily SMS Story Guide	**SWSAGA ON**
Daily Words of Wisdom	**SWTRUTH ON**
Daily Star Wars Trivia**	**SWT ON**
Weekly Logos	**SWLOGO ON**
Weekly Picture Messages	**SWPIC ON**
Weekly MMS Wallpapers	**SWMMS ON**
Weekly Animated Wallpapers	**SWANI ON**

*Keywords automatically subscribe you to daily/weekly contents.

For a complete list of Star Wars Downloads:	Send to 291
Logos	**SWL**
Picture Messages	**SWP**
MMS Wallpapers	**SWW**
Animated Wallpapers	**SWA**
Ringtones	**SWR**
Ringback Tunes	**SWRBT**
Themes	**SWHT**
Star Wars Quizzes**	**SWQ**

For a list of available Handset Themes, Jedi-zines, Java Games and Animated Clips, visit the SMART WAP** site at http://wap.smart.com.ph.

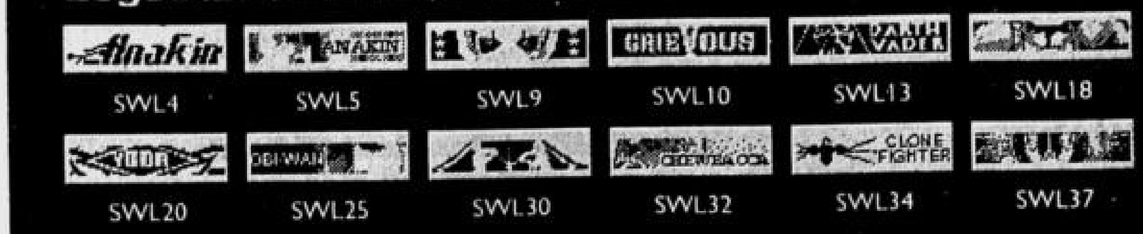
Ringtones

Text **TONE** <keyword> to **291**
Text **POLY** <keyword> to **291**

Song	Keyword	Song	Keyword
Star Wars Theme	**SWR1**	Ewoks Theme	**SWR6**
Imperial March	**SWR2**	Throne Room	**SWR7**
Yoda's Theme	**SWR3**	Ben's Death	**SWR8**
Cantina Band 1	**SWR4**	Carbon Freeze	**SWR9**
Cantina Band 2	**SWR5**	City In The Clouds	**SWR10**

Logos

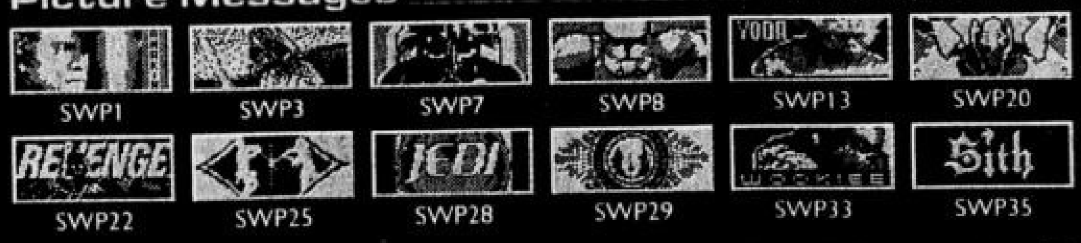
Text **LOGO** <keyword> to 291



SWL4 SWL5 SWL9 SWL10 SWL13 SWL18
SWL20 SWL25 SWL30 SWL32 SWL34 SWL37

Picture Messages

Text **PIC** <keyword> to **291**



SWP1 SWP3 SWP7 SWP8 SWP13 SWP20
SWP22 SWP25 SWP28 SWP29 SWP33 SWP35

MMS Wallpapers

Text **MMS** <keyword> to **291**

SWW5 SWW9 SWW14 SWW16 SWW17 SWW18 SWW20 SWW24 SWW29 SWW33 SWW34

Animated Wallpapers

Text **MMS** <keyword> to **291**

SWA1 SWA4 SWA8 SWA10 SWA11 SWA14 SWA15 SWA20 SWA24 SWA27 SWA28

Themes

SMART
Camera
Pinboard

To download Themes
1. Visit the SMART WAP site at http://wap.smart.com.ph
2. Click on Amazing Stuff
3. Choose Handset Themes
4. Click on Star Wars
5. Choose Phone Type
6. Click on selected theme

For Ep I, II, IV, V, VI: Series 60 and Sony Ericsson P900. For EP III: Series 60, Series 40 and Sony Ericsson P900

I ♥ SMART
Simply Amazing!

Powered by [illegible]

In cooperation with Canon

To set **GPRS** settings on your phone: text SET GPRS <phone model> to 211. Ex. SET GPRS N6600. To activate GPRS on your phone text GPRS ON to 333.
To set **MMS** settings on your phone: text SET MMS <phone model> to 211. Ex. SET MMS N6600. To activate MMS on your phone text MMS ON to 333.

For questions, comments, or concerns, you may call the SMART Hotline at 888 1111, send a text message to 888 (P1.00 per message sent in excess of the FREE TEXT allocation), e-mail us at customercare@smart.com.ph or visit our website at www.smart.com.ph
Text messages cost P2.50 each. Logos, Picture Messages, MMS Images, and Tones are P15.00 each. WAP Downloads cost P30.00 per download.

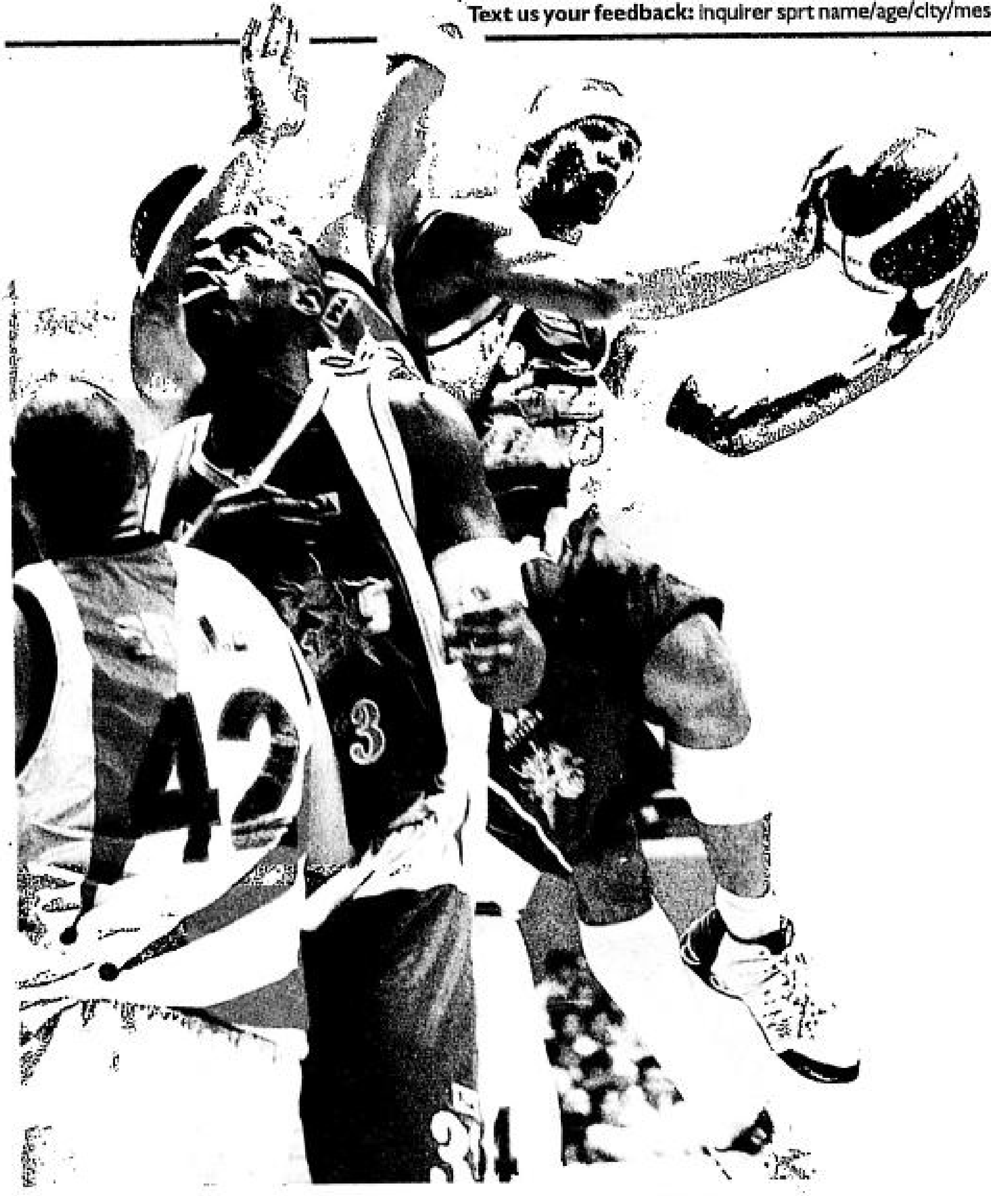
WAP downloads and SMS subscription services [illegible] are not included in the promo.
Promo runs until June 30, 2005.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0411 Series of 2005.

E-mail: pr_sports@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres

Text us your feedback: inquirer sprt name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

BUMILI NG PETRON ULTRON REV-X AT I-TEXT
PETRON
6B23888A/
Al Dy/
1 Dalia St.
Cubao, Q.C.
Promo Period runs from November 15, 2004 to May 15, 2005.
See posters and flyers for details.
PETRON



SHELL'S Ronald Tubid (right) drives off San Miguel's Danny Ildefonso. AUGUST DELA CRUZ

Import lifts Shell over listless SMB

GAME TODAY (*Zamboanga City Coliseum*)
4:30 p.m.—Barangay Ginebra vs FedEx

By June Navarro

WESLEY Wilson came up with another spectacular game and formed a lethal combination with Ronald Tubid to carry Shell to a runaway 120-101 victory over San Miguel Beer in the 2005 Gran Matardor PBA Fiesta Conference last night at the Araneta Coliseum.

Wilson sparkled with 40 points, scoring 25 of his total output in the second half spiked by 18 rebounds, seven assists and four blocks as the Turbochargers registered a second straight win in three days.

"He's (Wilson) the missing link and judging the way he performed the past two game, we have no doubts of keeping him for good," said Shell coach Leo Austria after Wilson followed up his conference-high 46 points against Coca-Cola Wednesday night.

"What's good about this team is that even if our import scores 40 points a night, the locals still maintain to the system that we are trying to apply," Austria added.

Tubid stuck to their battle plan in the second half when the former University of the East Warrior complemented Wilson in offense that allowed the Turbochargers to cut loose from a tight contest.

Tubid's three-pointer broke a 77-all deadlock and the 6-foot-10 Wilson began to take over, bullying his way to seven straight baskets as the Turbochargers zoomed ahead, 87-81, before the final period.

The Turbochargers sustained their momentum with Billy Mamaril, Roger Yap and Tony Dela Cruz doing their share in offense to help them erect a 105-92 spread midway in the fourth.

`Talent-wise, we can't beat San Miguel. But through hard work, stamina and energy we were able to match up with them," said Austria, whose Turbochargers improved to a second-running 4-2 slate.

Austria worked on a 10-man rotation, giving the Turbochargers fresh legs whenever coach Jong Uichico and the Beermen would threaten to come back.

The Turbochargers also shut down Chris Burgess in the final period, limiting the San Miguel import to just three points that hastened the Beermen's second defeat in six games.

Enrico Villanueva fired 26 points and added 11 rebounds as Red Bull bested Sta. Lucia Realty, 108-99, in the second game.

Red Bull improved to 3-2 while Sta. Lucia fell to 1-5.

The scores:

SHELL 120—Wilson 40, Alvarez 20, Tubid 17, Dela Cruz 17, Mamaril 12, Yap 10, Sharma 2, Sta. Maria 2, Sotto 0, Cruz 0, Jackson 0.

SAN MIGUEL 101—Burgess 25, Seigle 23, HOntiveros 21, Belasco 15, Racela 9, Villoria 6, Gamboa 2, Lopez 0, Canlas 0, Mente 0.

Quarters: 34-30, 56-54, 87-81, 120-101.

PSC SCAM

Bogus nat'l athletes act as NSA bodyguards

By Musong R. Castillo

THE CASH-STRAPPED Philippine Sports Commission is losing at least P1.344 million a year in athletes' allowances paid to 16 bogus national players being used as escorts or bodyguards by several National Sports Association presidents and officials.

This was learned by the INQUIRER in an exclusive interview with an NSA president, who spoke on condition that he not be identified, after the monthly Philippine Olympic Committee meeting.

The source quoted Navy Captain Paterno Laviano, who spoke in front of NSA heads and the POC leadership Wednesday at the Milky Way restaurant.

Laviano revealed that his committee, chaired by Ret. Admiral Luisito Fernandez, unearthed the scam while checking on the status of the 300 or so enlisted men and women in the Armed Forces who are members of various national teams.

According to the source, each one of the more than 300 athletes receive a monthly allowance of at least P7,000 from the PSC, but 16 of them work as escorts or bodyguards of various NSA presidents and officials.

Old national

"One of them is so old that he is due to retire from the Armed Forces," the source said. "And he is listed as an athlete of a very strenuous sport where someone in his age can't compete in."

Laviano, who did not name the NSA heads in his report, is the chief of the Special Services unit of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, a division where all the enlisted men and women with special skills are in.

National athletes and coaches as well as members of the AFP band, to name a few, fall in this group.

Fernandez, also the National Golf Association of the Philippines (NGAP) secretary general, meanwhile, was assigned by POC president Jose "Peping" Cojuangco to chair the AFP-POC liaison office earlier this year.

The AFP-POC liaison office has been in place for several years but has become active only this year with the country set to host the Southeast Asian Games in November in Manila and three other key cities.

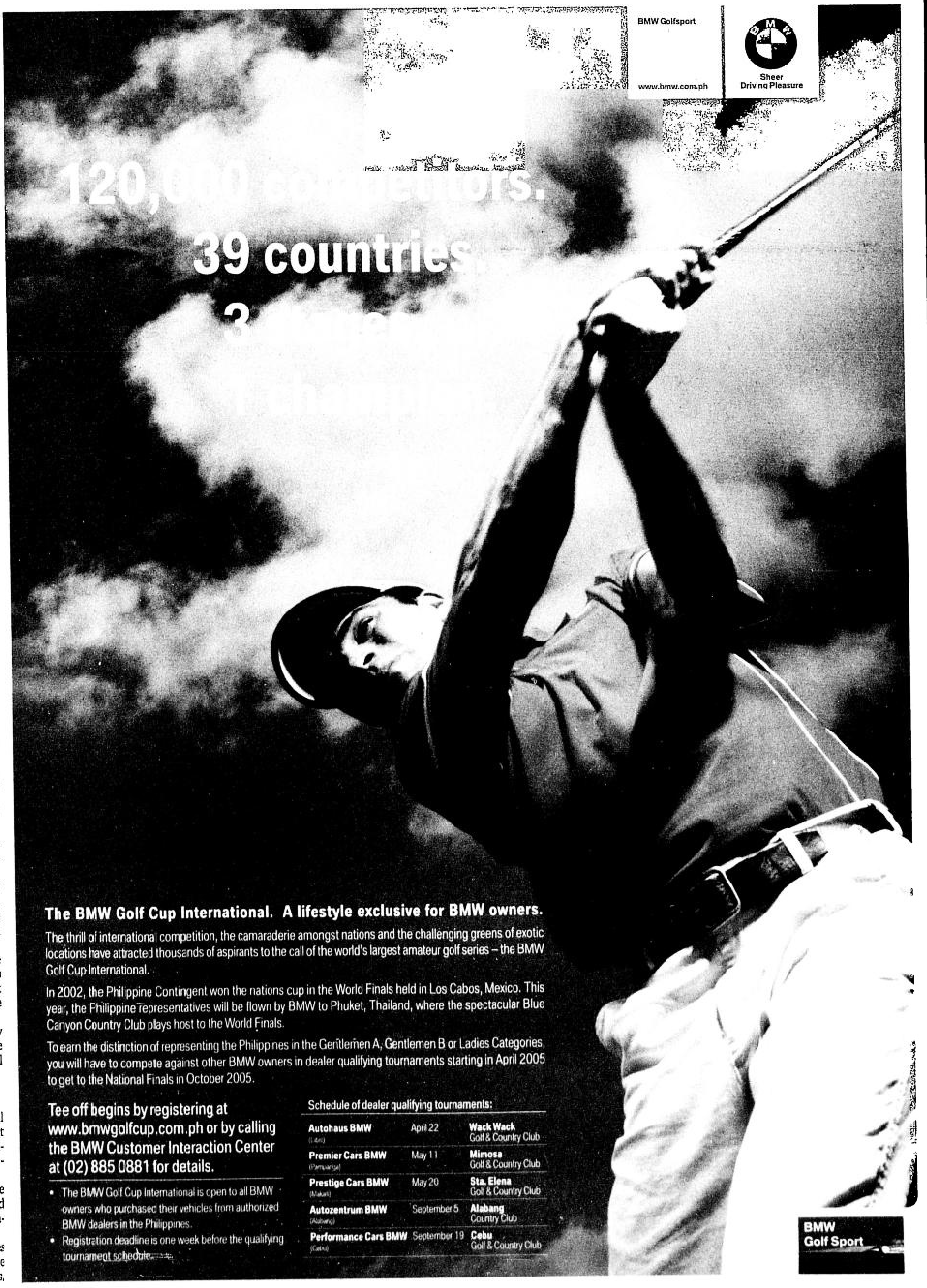
Fernandez is in charge of facilitating every problem that an enlisted man-national athlete might have as preparations for the SEAG go full throttle in a few weeks' time.

Double pay

The source also said that these 16 "national athletes" not only take pay from the PSC, but from the Armed Forces as well. Some of them also "moonlight" by giving security services to other VIPs.

"It's a clear case of graft and corruption on the part of the NSA heads," the source said. "And these so-called athletes deprive (legitimate athletes) the chance for a decent pay."

The source said some of these bogus athletes could have functioned as national players at one time but were asked to stay on by their NSA heads,



BMW Golfsport

www.bmw.com.ph

Sheer Driving Pleasure

The BMW Golf Cup International. A lifestyle exclusive for BMW owners.

The thrill of international competition, the camaraderie amongst nations and the challenging greens of exotic locations have attracted thousands of aspirants to the call of the world's largest amateur golf series – the BMW Golf Cup International.

In 2002, the Philippine Contingent won the nations cup in the World Finals held in Los Cabos, Mexico. This year, the Philippine representatives will be flown by BMW to Phuket, Thailand, where the spectacular Blue Canyon Country Club plays host to the World Finals.

To earn the distinction of representing the Philippines in the Gentlemen A, Gentlemen B or Ladies Categories, you will have to compete against other BMW owners in dealer qualifying tournaments starting in April 2005 to get to the National Finals in October 2005.

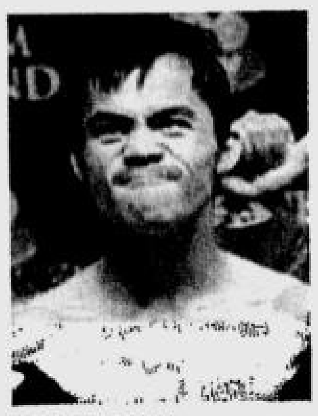
Tee off begins by registering at www.bmwgolfcup.com.ph or by calling the BMW Customer Interaction Center at (02) 885 0881 for details.

- The BMW Golf Cup International is open to all BMW owners who purchased their vehicles from authorized BMW dealers in the Philippines.
- Registration deadline is one week before the qualifying tournament schedule.

Schedule of dealer qualifying tournaments:

Autohaus BMW (Libis)	April 22	**Wack Wack** Golf & Country Club
Premier Cars BMW (Pampanga)	May 11	**Mimosa** Golf & Country Club
Prestige Cars BMW (Makati)	May 20	**Sta. Elena** Golf & Country Club
Autozentrum BMW (Alabang)	September 5	**Alabang** Country Club
Performance Cars BMW (Cebu)	September 19	**Cebu** Golf & Country Club

BMW Golf Sport



PACQUIAO: No more distractions while training

Manny to train in new gym, away from spies

By Jasmine W. Payo

OTHER than acquire extra skills, Manny Pacquiao yesterday vowed to move out of Wild Card Boxing Club in Hollywood and train in a new gym to prevent spies from studying his moves.

There will be no more training distractions, Pacquiao said during yesterday's SCOOP Sa Kamayan on Padre Faura, Manila.

Pacquiao, who lost to Mexican Erik Morales via a close but unanimous decision in Las Vegas last month, vowed to set things right when he leaves for training in the United States on April 12.

"I will now practice in a place where no one can bother me," said Pacquiao, who is set to re-

MANNY/ A26

Rare pairing in PBL opening; Pacquiao gets special honor

By Marc Anthony Reyes

HOW would a neophyte team fare against a league heavyweight?

Debuting team Harbour Centre and preseason favorite Montana Pawnshop provide the answer today when the PBL 2nd Unity Cup fires off at the Makati Coliseum.

Mark Cardona and LA Tenorio, commanders of the collegiate league's A-list teams, provide a novelty when they play together in the 4 p.m. main game against the no nonsense Jewels captained by reigning MVP Jondan Salvador and the fiery Alex Compton.

Providing an equally exciting undercard in the match between Granny Goose and Bacchus Energy Drink (formerly Air Phil.) at 2 p.m., RJ Quiñahan will lead the way for the Snack Masters against the dynamic duo of Paolo Hubalde and Jemal Vizcarra.

The Jewels are eyeing for back-to-back titles after ruling the Open Championship two months ago. But the Port Masters promise to put up a good fight with the help of the biggest names in college ball in their roster.

GAMES TODAY (*Makati Coliseum*)
1 p.m.—Opening Ceremonies
2 p.m.—Granny Goose vs. Bacchus
4 p.m.—Montaña vs. Harbour Centre

The conference will unveil with a simple rite at 1 p.m., highlighted by a tribute to Filipino boxing icon Manny Pacquiao, who despite losing to Erik Morales still kept his stature as the country's symbol of courage.

Pacquiao will be accorded the league's first-ever Gawad ng Kagitingan by PBL Commissioner Chino Trinidad.

"Although Manny lost that fight, he won not only the hearts of Filipinos but the respect of other nationalities. He showed a great fighting spirit and this is what I want to instill among our young players," said Trinidad.

Sexy stars Aleck Bovick and April Tolentino will also try to fire up the affair with a performance during the opening ceremony along with the Solid Gold dancers and Montserrat singers.

But the main course will be the encounter between Harbour Centre and Montaña Pawnshop, particularly the marquee matchup between Cardona—the Open Championship scoring champion—and the equally explosive Compton.

One thing going for the Jewels is their tried-and-tested teamwork harnessed by coach Robert Sison. The coach has retained practically all the players that helped the team end its string of misfortunes since joining the league in 1998.

Beefing up the Montana lineup are Al Magpayo, Francis Mercado, Kenneth Bono and Alwin Espiritu. Still, Sison remained cautious when asked of their chances against the Port Masters

"I have great respect for the coaching staff of Harbour. Even their players are all talented, so it's going to be a tough game for us," he said.

Harbour coach Tonichi Yturri believed the Jewels have the edge because of their big men but he vowed to use speed and defense to control Montana's frontliners.

Big gamble

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

MANY will surely say the move to recall Cuban Raul Fernandez Liranza to coach our national boxing team to the SEA Games is unsound. That is so because, to many followers of the so-called sweet science, Liranza it was who goofed in our failed bid to land a boxing medal in the 2000 Sydney Olympics.

Flashback: Arlan Lerio was ahead in the scorecards going to the last round when he got orders from Liranza to mix it up "to the very end." That ploy backfired. Lerio lost the last round badly, blowing away a chance to secure a bronze medal—and get a shot at both the silver and gold in the Sydney Olympics. Liranza got himself raked in the coals after the debacle. He would soon find himself packing his bags for Havana.

One might say that's all water under the bridge now.

But battle-scarred kibitzers will insist it's not easy to forget. If there's one sport that loves to delve, if not dwell, on the past, it's boxing.

Manny Lopez, the nation's amateur boxing chief, is taking a big gamble here.

But listen to his defense: Liranza had made two Cubans gold medalists in the 2004 Athens Olympics.

That's something not to sneeze at, although Cubans are proven Olympic boxing champions.

Still, I say that was a mighty comeback for the much-ostracized Liranza from his Sydney misadventure.

Manny L, in justifying his move further, also said, "Liranza's familiarity with the Filipino boxer and the locals' familiarity with him will be big factors in forming a good team."

Before the Sydney setback, Liranza, a big fan of broadcaster Korina Sanchez, was the other half of Onyok Velasco's heroic silver finish in boxing during the Atlanta Olympics. That was the main reason why Liranza, Onyok's coach, made it to Sydney as our boxing coach again.

Again, by nature, we usually only remember the slips, the errors.

You do good, rarely will you receive applause.

You goof even just for once, you get crucified the rest of your life—almost always.

I can only wish Manny and Raul good luck.

***

OUR Salven Lagumbay wrote that Rodel Mayol left yesterday for Osaka, Japan to defend his OPBF minimumweight title for the third time—this time against Japanese Takayuki Korogi on April 4. Mayol, who has the makings of a future world champion, was accompanied by manager Josephine Ouano, trainer Carl Peñalosa Jr. and boxing judge Bruce McTavish.

While I wish Mayol luck, I cite here again the bad habit of pitting our champions against challengers on foreign soil. Always, it's Japan, Japan and Japan as the destination of our fighters, champion or no champion.

I say why not also push for the fights to be held here, especially so in the case of Mayol, who can always demand for that since he is the champion anyways?

Japan's stranglehold on Asian boxing will never end unless we stop allowing ourselves to be part of the travesty.

As the saying goes, the fault of one is the fault of all.

***

FASTBREAK. Good news to boxing buffs. Dennis Anthony Uy, that great inventor, will air the Barrera-Fana fight on April 10, again on a Pay-Per-View (PPV) basis the way he did in the Pacquiao-Morales fight through his TAS (Total Addressable System). This time, Dennis is charging only P150 per subscriber. Aside from Angeles, the cities covered by Dennis' PPV airing of the Barrera-Fana fight without commercials are San Fernando in Pampanga, Daet and Legaspi in Bicol, Olongapo in Zambales, and Cagayan de Oro and Iligan in Mindanao. Barrera (Marco Antonio), by the way, was the same Mexican whom Manny Pacquiao had knocked out in 11 rounds in 2003. Those trying to call me had better call Dennis at 045-3235215 or 045-8928890 for details of the PPV. I have no business whatsoever with Dennis. I searched for him when I heard about his PPV scheme days before the Pacquiao-Morales fight and was I glad I found him. His inventiveness should merit him the Inventor of the Year award.

We are Launching Philippine Sports to New Heights!
PAT OZAETA
Football
KENNIE ASUNCION
Badminton
TONI RIVERO
Taekwondo
15 APRIL '05
6 O'CLOCK PM
THE FORT

LEAD to GOLD

The quest for the most prestigious ASEAN football gold in 2015 and a gold medal in taekwondo in the 2008 Beijing Olympics begins.

REMEMBER THE TITANS
Relive some of sports most memorable moments in the words of the greatest Filipino athletes of yesterday and today in this intimate photo exhibit.

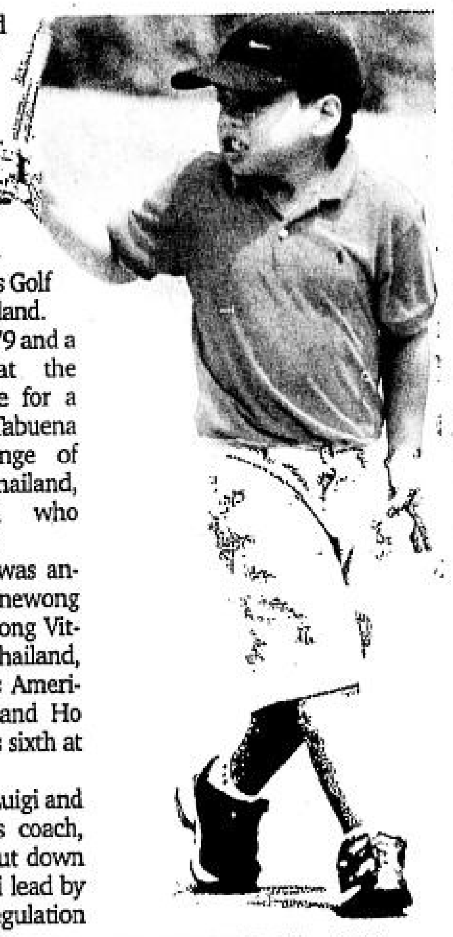
SPORTS RAMP
A dazzling crossover of sports and fashion where popular athletes and sports-minded celebrities showcase the latest sporting apparel and equipment amidst dinner and music.

Developing the Filipino Champion
For more information about LEAD to Gold or LEAD Institute of Sport, please call: 633-6321 or 631-6201

LEAD INSTITUTE OF SPORT

In partnership with PLDT SAN MIGUEL CORPORATION SMART PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Tabuena takes Thailand int'l jungolf crown



LITTLE TIGER: Miguel Tabuena

MIGUEL Tabuena scored the first victory by a local jungolfer abroad this year by topping the 9-10 years division of the 4th UBC Thailand International Junior Golf Championship in come-from-behind fashion Friday at the Palm Hills Golf Resort in Petchaburi, Thailand.

Scoring rounds of 74, 79 and a tournament-best 73 at the windswept resort course for a three-day total of 226, Tabuena fought off the challenge of overnight leader from Thailand, Korntawach Julamool, who scored 78,74, 77 for 229.

Placing third at 233 was another Thai, Thanthiti Senewong na Ayaitha, with Nantarong Vittayakoon, also of Thailand, fourth at 236. Fifth was American Eric Peng at 238 and Ho Joshua of Singapore was sixth at 238.

Egged on by parents Luigi and Lorna Tabuena and his coach, Noel Macutay, Miguel cut down an early two-stroke Thai lead by hitting 14 greens in regulation and all but one fairway.

Over 240 junior golfers from Thailand, Singapore, Korea, Malaysia, Hong Kong, China, Sweden and the United States competed in the tournament.

In the girls' 9-10 years old division, RP bet Andie Unson placed third behind Thais Afriya Jutanukorn and Suchaya Tangkamolpraset.

Jungolf Foundation of the Philippines chair Amalia Montecillo and president Raoul Lachica lauded the victory, saying this could well be another big season for local jungolfers.

Last year, Tabuena and Dottie Ardina won in the US Kids World Championships in Williamsburg, Virginia, that added to victories posted by JR Gonzales in the Junior World, Marcel Puyat in Malaysia and Paulina Sotto in Hong Kong.

"Miguel has once more made us proud and we know that with his talent he's going to bring more honors to the country," said Montecillo.

Bustamante, Reyes, Valle advance

REYES: Tough match

ROOMMATES Francisco "Django" Bustamante and Gandy Valle shared the same fate in the first round of the San Miguel Asian 9-Ball Tour in Jakarta on Friday.

Both disposed of their rivals in easy fashion.

Come Saturday, however, one of them has to leave their room at Mandarin Oriental and head for home earlier than the other.

The Filipino cue masters had the unfortunate task of facing each other in the second round of the second leg of this event being held in the Indonesian capital for the first time.

Bustamante, seeded second, ousted Chu Hung-ming of Chinese-Taipei, 9-5, while the unseeded Valle romped to a 9-2 victory over Hong Kong's Au Siu-wai at the Hanggar Billiard Center.

Like his compatriots, top seed Efren "Bata" Reyes drew a difficult duel, but two golden breaks and four errors by Japan's Kunihiko Takahashi allowed "The Magician" to escape with a 9-8 triumph in a match-up of former world champions.

Owing to the quirks of the draw held late Thursday, Django had the unwelcome chore of facing Valle—winner of the first leg in Singapore in the event organized by ESPN Star Sports—after their respective first-round victories.

"That's how the draw goes," said Bustamante in Filipino. "Of course, it's going to be a hard fight because you're up against a fellow Filipino. Whoever gets the breaks will win."

Bustamante beat Valle, 11-4, in the semifinals on the way to the title in the recent All-Filipino Open.

Another victim of the blind draw was Lee Vann Corteza, who had the misfortune of facing two-leg winner Yang Chin-shun in the same quarter of the 32-man bracket as Bustamante and Valle—and became the first Filipino to bow out of the $50,000 event bankrolled by San Miguel Beer.

Failing to protect a 5-0 lead, Corteza eventually lost, 9-6, to the Taiwanese master, the only non-Filipino pool player to win a stop in three years of the only qualifying tournament in Asia for the World Pool Championships in July.

Winner of the Tour's Manila leg last year, Corteza is going home with just $750 (about P40,500)—far less than the $10,000 offered to the champion of the second leg of the four-leg series.

Compatriots Efren "Bata" Reyes and Roberto Gomez Jr. are tackling separate opponents at presstime.

Fresh off a victory in the Japan Open, the top-seeded Reyes is playing fellow former world champ Kunihiko Takahashi, while Gomez, a qualifier who took the place of first-leg semifinalist Antonio "Gaga" Gabica, was battling Taiwan's Kuo Po-Cheng.

Two seeded players were shown the exit. Third-seeded Korean Jeong Young Hwa was the first to go, upended by Singapore's Toh Lian-Han, 9-5, and China's Xu Meng saw off No. 7 Patrick Ooi of Malaysia by the same score.

Third seed Chao Fong-pang struggled for form before showing the door to the hosts' Yudarman Kamarudin, 9-7.

From the nation's No. 1 Newspaper:
INQUIRER

Read it every Sunday
with the
Philippine Daily Inquirer.

JOB Market

PETRON
We fuel summer.
PETRON
Fuel Success.

[illegible]
[illegible]
make sure your [illegible]
is in good condition.
Get a safety check
at any of our service
stations anywhere
in the country.
We'll check the engine
oil, radiator water,
brake condition, tire
tread and tire pressure.
Wherever you want
to have fun this
summer, fuel your
journeys with Petron.

Big Four poise for Augusta duel

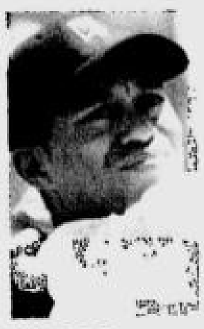
LONDON—The US Masters, global sport's eagerly anticipated rite of spring, could provide one of its most memorable editions this year if golf's "Big Four" stand and deliver.

Three-time winner Tiger Woods, world No. 1 Vijay Singh, defending champion Phil Mickelson and 2004 runner-up Ernie Els have all produced triumphant form on occasions this season.

Should they find similar inspiration amid the rhododendrons, azaleas and loblolly pines at Augusta National in Georgia from next Thursday, then golf fans will be able to savour something extra special.

When American left-hander Mickelson won last year's title by a shot to end a wait of more than a decade for his first major victory, he did so after an epic battle of shot-making with South African Els.

Three-time major winner Els appeared to have the green jacket within his grasp when leading by two strokes with five holes to play, but was overhauled by a red-hot Mickelson who covered the back nine in a blistering five-under 31.



WOODS

Els closed with a 67 and Mickelson a 69 as the pair slugged it out in a veritable birdie-fest in the final round at Augusta.

If that can be duplicated next week, with Fijian Singh and American Woods also in the mix, Augusta officials could not wish for a better script.

The omens are certainly promising with Woods and Mickelson having won twice each on this year's PGA Tour, Singh triumphing at the Sony Open in Hawaii in January and Els producing back-to-back wins on the European Tour in the Arabian Gulf.

Best of all was the manner in which Woods out-dueled Mickelson by a shot to clinch last month's Doral Open in Miami.

In echoes of the 2004 Masters finish, the pair rose to the challenge with a stunning display of shot-making in the final round.

Mickelson battled right to the end, very nearly chipping in from just off the green at the last to force a playoff.

Woods, however, was in sublime form all week. After surging two shots clear with an eagle at the par-five 12th, he effectively sealed victory by holing a 28-foot birdie putt at the 17th.

He broke the tournament's 72-hole record with a brilliant, closing six-under-par 66 to reclaim, briefly, the No. 1 spot in the world rankings from Singh.

Not all the omens, however, have been favorable for a thrilling "Big Four" showdown at Augusta in the first of the year's four major golf championships.

Last week's Players' Championship at Sawgrass, widely regarded as the sport's unofficial fifth major, proved to be a damp squib for the quartet in more ways than one.

Not only was the rain-hit PGA Tour event played out over five days but the so-called "Fab Four" collectively failed to deliver.

Singh produced the best finish there in gusting winds on the last day, a closing 72 lifting him into a tie for 12th at four-under 284.

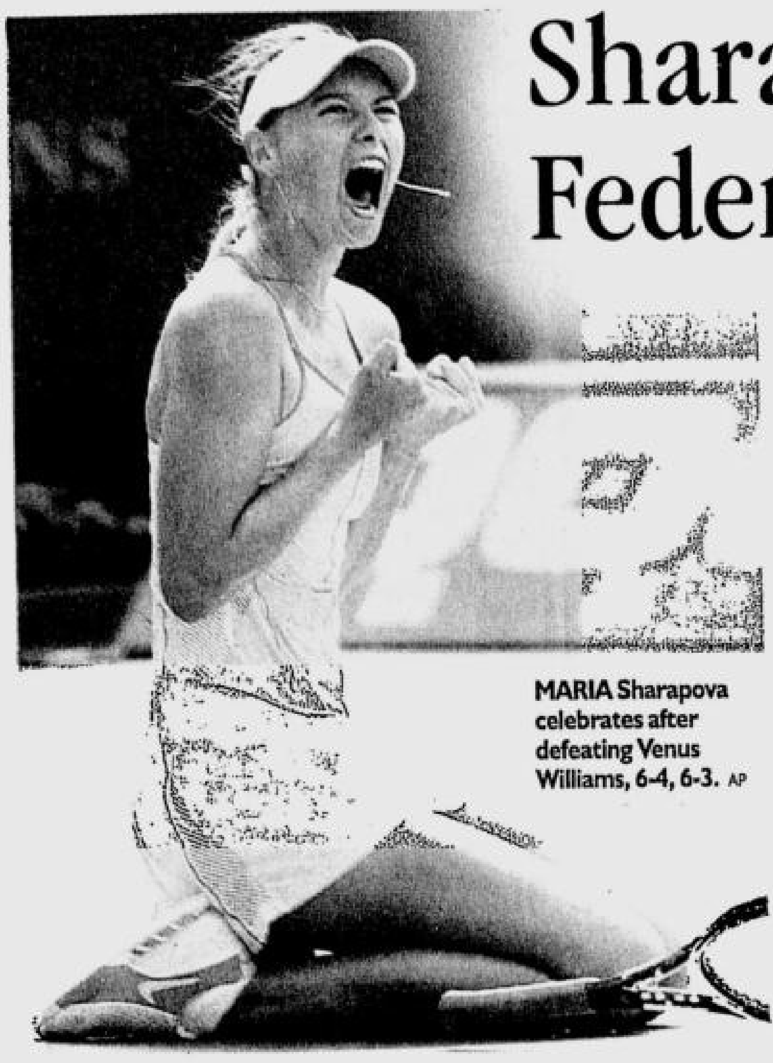
Els carded a 69, his best round of the week, for joint 17th place at three under while Mickelson battled to a 75 for a share of 40th at two over.

Woods, the 2001 Players' champion, ended up a further three strokes back in a tie for 53rd after returning a second successive 75. "I'm going to forget about it," said Woods.

Reuters

TIMBERWOLVES' Kevin Garnett hangs on to the rim

Sharapova trips Williams; Federer stretch win skein



MARIA Sharapova celebrates after defeating Venus Williams, 6-4, 6-3. AP

MIAMI—Former world No. 1 Kim Clijsters crushed top seed Amelie Mauresmo, 6-1, 6-0, on Thursday to reach the final of the Nasdaq-100 Open, where she will meet Maria Sharapova who earlier beat Venus Williams, 6-4, 6-3.

Men's No. 1 seed Roger Federer maintained his unbeaten record with a 6-4 6-2 win over Tim Henman to set up a semifinal meeting with Andre Agassi, who demolished his fellow American, Taylor Dent, 7-5, 6-0.

Unseeded Clijsters whipped past Mauresmo in little more than an hour to extend her winning streak to 13 matches and stay on course for back-to-back titles following her victory at Indian Wells 13 days ago.

Clijsters has lost just one match since returning to the tour in February after missing most of the 2004 season with a wrist injury. Looking sprightly and fleet-footed, Clijsters signaled her intent by breaking Mauresmo's serve early in the first set and from then on was never troubled by the Frenchwoman.

Swiss Federer eased past Briton Henman to book his place in the last four with his 30th win of the year and his 20th consecutive victory since losing to Marat Safin at the Australian Open in January.

Agassi, who has won the title in Miami six times, took just 70 minutes to deal with Dent.

After Agassi took the first set with a late break of serve, Dent's body and spirit both proved vulnerable in the second.

At 0-4 down Dent received treatment on an ankle injury and thereafter put up little resistance.

Federer said he was looking forward to taking on Agassi for the chance to play in the final against David Ferrer or Rafael Nadal, who meet in the other all-Spanish, semifinal.

Federer has won six of nine career meetings with Agassi.

Wimbledon champion Sharapova will have to be at her best to beat Clijsters in Saturday's final but on Thursday was just happy to enjoy the moment.

"I'm in the final and I feel fantastic," said the 17-year-old.

She said she gained a lot of confidence after edging out the tightest of first sets when errors began to creep into Williams's game as she served at 4-5 down.

Reuters

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

TV GUIDE

Saturday, April 2, 2005

SINO ANG BABANGGA SA GINEBRA?

PBA

ABC Iba tayo

2005 PBA FIESTA CONFERENCE

ASTIG!

ClickTheCity.com

Channel	2:30PM	3:00PM	3:30PM	4:00PM	4:30PM	5:00PM	5:30PM	6:00PM	6:30PM	7:00PM	7:30PM	8:00PM	8:30PM	9:00PM	9:30PM	10:00PM	10:30PM	11:00PM	11:30PM
ABS-CBN 2	Entertainment Konek				Y Speak		Nginig: The Hidden Files		Star Dance			TV Patrol World	Magandang Gabi Bayan		Star Cinema Presents				Kontrobersyal
NBN	Value Vision		Value Vision			GSIS Member's Hour		Yan Ang Pinoy		Gold & Glory In Greece		Search For The 1st Tanduay Billiards Player		To Be Announced			Business & Leisure		
ABC 5	Smart TV	The Basketball Show		Soccer Showdown		Loren		Diretsahan		Viva Box Office				Sing Galing		Maverick & Ariel	ABC Cinema		
GMA 7	Startalk			Wish Ko Lang		Wag Kukurap	Pinoy Pop Superstar	Bitoy's Funniest Videos			Extra Challenge		Imbestigador		Idol Ko Si Kap			Tales Of Horror	
RPN 9			Biyaheng Langit		Kids TV	Hanapbuhay Overseas		Isumbong mo kay Tulfo		7 Days		JAG		Bird Of Prey				Money Talks	
IBC 13		Home Shopping Network		Entrepinoy	Good Take	Home Shopping Network		Legacy Of Hero		Mosconi Cup				Brag		In This Corner		Ugnayang Pambansa	
Solar	Tough Enough	WWE Bottomline		Wwe Raw				Wwe Heat		Wow		Slamball		UFC Recall				Thunder Box	
Nickelodeon	Girls In Love	Kenan & Kel	1, 2, 3	Snick. Unfabulous (New)/All Grown Up/ My Dad The Rock Star/ Drake & Josh				Danny Phantom	My Life As A Teenage Robot	SpongeBob SquarePants	The Fairly Odd Parents	Sabrina, The Teenage Witch	Romeo	Girls In Love	Kenan & Kel	As Told By Ginger	Rocket Power	Hey Arnold!	The Wild Thornberrys
MYX		Urban MYX	MYX Backtrax	Pop MYX	OPM MYX	Take 5	My MYX	MYX Presents		Top Of The Pops	MYX Remakes	Pop MYX	Urban MYX	Club MYX	Take 5	OPM MYX		MYX Live!	
ETC		Saturday Night Live		Joan Of Arcadia		What I Like About You	Simple Life	The O C		Queer Eye For The Straight Guy		Last Comic Standing		Saturday Night Live		Entertainment Tonight	The Insider	Access Hollywood (Rated Oh!)	
Studio 23				PBL Game 2				Sports TV	Mr. Bean	7th Heaven	Gilmore Girls (7:45 PM)		The Bachelor (8:40 PM)		Studio 23 Present				Reel Deal
AXN		The Karate Kid Part II					Hollywood's Greatest Stunts		Rated X	Canon AXN Xtreme		Ripley's Believe It or Not		When Animals Attack		Men In Black II			
Star World	Action Man	Totally Outrageous Behavior Caught On Tape	Weird TV	Miami Vice		Adventure Inc		Roswell		Dark Angel		TNA Wrestling/ One Night Only! Rod Stewart In Concert		When Stunts Go Bad		Dog The Bounty Hunter	Cops	The Kumars At No. 42	Goodness Gracious Me
CNN	Diplomatic License	World News	World Business This Week	World News	People In The News	Larry King Live		World News	World Sport	World News	CNN Business Traveller	World News	Design 360	World News	Talk Asia	World News	The Daily Show With Jon Stewart, Global Edition	CNN Presents: A Rising Tide: The Threat Of Global Warming	
National Geographic		Big Bite Nite						Creature Feature				Be The Creature		The Snake Wranglers	Wildlife Diary	Big Bite Nite			
Solar Sports		IBF German Open '05				WTA Proximus '05 Diamond: William vs Mauresmo				Sports Desk	Boxing: Vargas vs. Joval				NBa Game Minnesota @ Phoenix				
Lifestyle Network	Carol Duvall	HGTV Special		Radical Sabbatical	Road & Track	Genuine Article	Food Fight	Date Plate	Emeril Live		Nigella Bites	Brini Maxwell Show	Royalty A-Z		Modern Girl's Guide	E! True Hollywood Story		Look For Less	
HBO	Ghost Ship (2:20 PM)			Extreme Measures (3:50 PM)				Tale Of Two Wives (5:50 PM)		Virtuosity (7:15 PM)				Looney Tunes: Back In Action			Six Feet Under New Season Premiere		
Star Movies				Mojave Moon (4:15 PM)				Sgt. Bilko			Wrong Turn (7:35 PM)			Vertical Limit				Total Recall (11:05PM)	
Cartoon Network		The Detective Squad	Tom & Jerry Show	Swat Kats	Duck Dodgers	Xiaolin Showdown	Winx Club	Atomic Betty	Foster's Home For Imaginary Friends	The Grim Adventures Of Billy & Mandy	Top Cat & The Beverly Hills Cats				Power Rangers Ninja Storm	Duck Dodgers	Time Squad	Harvey Birdman (11:15PM)	Xiaolin Showdown
Disney Channel		Untalkative Bunny	Lilo & Stitch		Untalkative Bunny	Martin Mystery/ That's So Raven/ Dave The Barbarian/Phil Of The Future				Untalkative Bunny				Dave The Barbarian	Mr. Bean	America's Funniest Home Video	That's So Raven		
Cinemax			Twilight Man (3:45 PM)				The Long Run				Dead Easy (7:20 PM)			Red Dragon			Betrayed (10:35PM)	Clear And Present Danger	
Hallmark Channel	Hans Christian Andersen - The Fairytaler Cartoon	Changi	Hans Christian Andersen - The Fairytaler Cartoon	Changi	Hans Christian Andersen - The Fairytaler Cartoon	Hans Christian Andersen - The Fairytaler Cartoon	Hans Christian Andersen - The Fairytaler Cartoon	Hans Christian Andersen - The Fairytaler Cartoon	Hans Christian Andersen - The Fairytaler Cartoon	The Baby Dance				Midsomer Murders: Death Of A Stranger					
Discovery Channel		Human Discovery		Ultimate Cars	Building The Ultimate	Unsolved History				Wild Discovery				Rides		The New Detectives		Extreme Discovery	
MTV Philippines											MTV Urban Beats								
Sports Plus	Asian Motocross '04 Review			NCAA Reg Finals Game1				Italia Serie A Highlight 8		Bikini Destination	You've Got to See This	NCAA Reg Finals Game2				Bell South Classic Day2			
EWTN	Defending Life	Angelus (3:15 PM)	G.K. Chesterton	My Little Angels	The Donut Man	The Holy Rosary With Mother Angelica and the Nuns Of Our Lady Of Angels Monastery	Black And Roman Catholic	Catholic Compass		The World Over		Fr. John Corapi		Daily Mass		Angelus (10:15PM)	The Church And Culture Today	Life on The Rock Encore	

TV SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

Ang inyong tagapaghatid ng ulat-pangmulat

TUWING HUWEBES pagkatapos ng American Idol

Ating kabalitaan

Cheri Mercado

Dito lang sa ABC

INQ TV

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

after a slam dunk against the Lakers. AP

JACKSON TRIPLE

Pacers chill Heat in extension

TORONTO—Stephen Jackson scored 29 including a three-pointer with less than a second to play to force overtime and lead the Pacers to a 114-108 win over the Miami Heat on Thursday.

It was the third consecutive overtime win for Indiana over the Heat this season, extending their domination over the Eastern Conference leaders to 12 wins in a row.

Reggie Miller led the Pacers on the scoresheet with 31 points while Anthony Johnson added 16 points and 13 assists.

Dwyane Wade had a game-high 37 for the Heat and Shaquille O'Neal added 24 points and 13 rebounds but did not score in overtime as the Heat lost for the third time in five games.

Wade looked to have given the Heat the win when he drained a three-pointer to put Miami in front, 94-91, with 10 seconds remaining in the fourth quarter.

But Jackson had two chances from the arc to tie the game, sinking his second with 2/10ths of a second to play bringing the Indiana crowd to their feet.

In Chicago, rookie Ben Gordon fired 21 points and dished out a career-high eight assists, as the Bulls overcame some late heroics from LeBron James to claim a 102-90 overtime victory against the Cleveland Cavaliers and collect their eighth consecutive win.

James, who finished the night with 26 points, forced the extra session with a three-pointer at the buzzer leveling the contest at 88.

But the Cavaliers had nothing left for the overtime where they were outplayed and outscored, 14-2.

Antonio Davis contributed 17 points to the Chicago cause while Tyson Chandler added 15 points, including five in overtime, and snared 14 rebounds.

The Bulls played the game without leading scorer Eddy Curry who was admitted to the hospital with an irregular heartbeat.

In Los Angeles, the Minnesota Timberwolves had seven players in double figures led by a 23-point performance from NBA MVP Kevin Garnett to post a 105-96 win over the slumping Lakers, who lost for the ninth time in 10 games.

Trenton Hassell had 16 points and Wally Szczerbiak and Sam Cassell each added 15 as the Timberwolves extended their winning run to five games keeping alive their hopes for a playoff spot.

Kobe Bryant had 26 points for the Lakers, who are on the brink of missing the postseason for the first time since the 1993-94 season. *Reuters*

Webber injured

PHILADELPHIA, Pennsylvania—Philadelphia 76ers forward Chris Webber ignored the advice of doctors and will miss the next week to 10 days of the National Basketball Association season as a result.

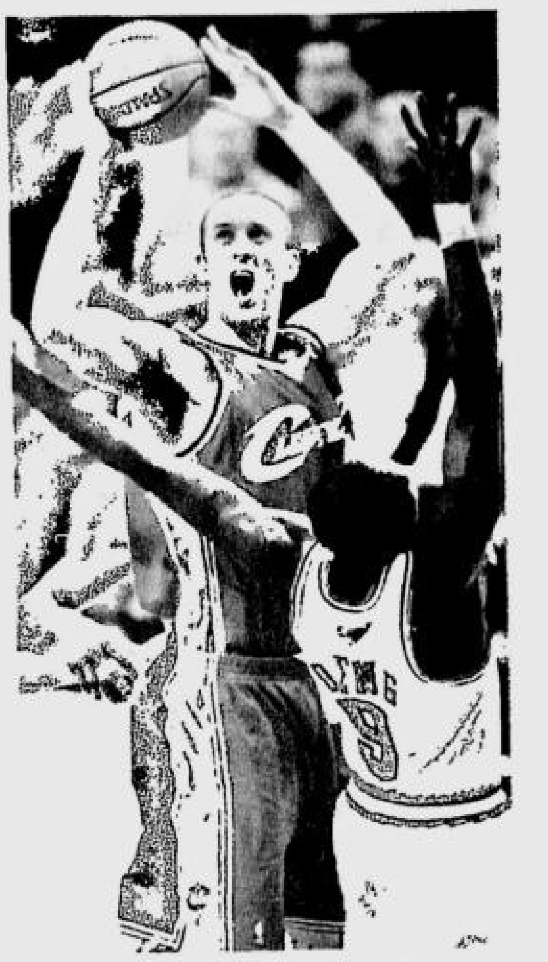
Webber will be sidelined with a sprained left shoulder during a key stretch as the 76ers fight for a playoff spot in the final three weeks of the season.

Webber was examined Thursday and began rehabilitation with hopes he might be back before missing five games in 10 days.

That worst-case scenario would get him back for an April 12 home game against Boston, which leads the 76ers by three games in the Atlantic Division.

Webber, obtained in February from Sacramento, hurt his surgically repaired left knee in the first half of a 116-87 loss Wednesday at Phoenix and was advised by physicians from both the 76ers and Suns not to return.

Instead, Webber went back into the game and hurt his shoulder in a third-quarter collision with Suns center Jake Voskuhl. "It popped out just a little bit, not a lot," Webber said. *AFP*


CAVALIERS' Zydrunas Ilgauskas puts up a shot over the Bulls' Luol Deng. AFP

Illini still looms as Final 4 pick

ST. LOUIS—At first glance, Illinois should be considered the favorite to win the national college basketball championship Monday night at the Final Four in St. Louis.

After all, Illinois (36-1) enters Saturday night's semifinal having lost just once this season and coach Bruce Weber's team have been ranked No. 1 in the US for the last 15 weeks.

It has had little or no travel to get to the Final Four, winning regional games in nearby Indianapolis and Chicago before taking yet another bus trip to St. Louis, which is a distinct advantage.

The death of Weber's mother late in the season became a rallying cry for Illinois as its coach opted to stay on with his team.

However, as the Illini know full well after coming back from a 15-point deficit against Arizona to win the Chicago Regional in overtime, nothing can be taken for granted.

One loss, either on Saturday against Louisville (33-4) or in the final, could spoil what has been a highly impressive season.

To make it a great ending, the Illini will have to play a team very similar to themselves on offense.

Illinois has five players with double-digit scoring averages, led by Luther Head who scores 15.6 per game. They have a quality three-guard attack combo featuring Head, Dee Brown and Deron Williams.

The Cardinals also have five players who score in double-figures, led by Francisco Garcia (16.0). Taquan Dean is a fearsome 3-point shooter and the Cardinals shot 40 percent from beyond the arc.

Louisville play zone defense while Illinois usually favors man-to-man, but both teams have shown they can turn up the pressure on defense when needed.

Illinois did so in its overtime Regional title win, as did the Cardinals, 93-85 overtime winners over West Virginia in the Albuquerque Regional final after coming back from 20 points down.

Louisville coach Rick Pitino, the first coach to take three schools to the Final Four, agreed.

"We're very experienced, but so are the other teams," he said.

North Carolina (31-4) face upstarts Michigan State (26-6) in Saturday's other semifinal.

The Tar Heels knocked off Wisconsin, 88-82, in the Syracuse Regional final while fifth-seeded Michigan State won a 94-88 double overtime decision over Kentucky in the Austin Regional final. *Reuters*

Boracay ready for Beach Ultimate meet

E HEAT is on as Cali -alcoholic, fruit-fla-ed drink gets set for the ging of the Cali Boracay er 2005 on April 23 24.

he best Beach Ulti-e teams from all over will descend on the ous white sand of Bo-y to battle it out for remacy.

his is the third time Boracay will host the rnational Beach Ulti-e competition.

he non-contact nature he sport, its easy learn- curve and laid-back ure make it very ap-ling to those looking new and different ac-y.

he basic idea behind mate is deceptively ple: Pass the disc from teammate to another, l the disc reaches the zone of the playing .

owever, players can- run with the disc or p while passing. The er holding the disc has six seconds to pass it teammate or his team s possession. Interceptions can only occur when the disc is in play. Thus the game emphasizes quick passes and plays, teamwork and speed, making Ultimate very fast-paced and highly entertaining for both participants and spectators.

"This year's Boracay Ultimate is definitely an event to watch out for as it promises to be the most exciting event this summer," said Richard Acenas, event organizer. "It's bigger and better."

The Boracay Dragons, the home team and also the defending champion, will find it tough to make it all the way again.

Cali Boracay Fever 2005 also includes the Cali Boracay G-Mix Bartending Competition, a showdown of the top bartenders.

The summer sports and party event is sponsored by Manila's newest FM station, Blazin' 105.9.

"Beach Ultimate is rapidly gaining popularity among the locals," said Towie Vasquez, Philippine Ultimate Association board member.

CELEBRITIES: Soccer legend Diego Maradona walks with Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez after having lunch with him in Caracas. REUTERS

osa feels 'free' with Orioles

LAUDERDALE, Florida—It might be a before major league baseball fans get Sammy Sosa wearing the white, or-nd black of the Baltimore Orioles.

, however, already is quite comfort-th what he sees.

been looking in the mirror a lot. I see in a new uniform, and it makes me " he says. "I wasn't comfortable any-n Chicago. Now I'm free."

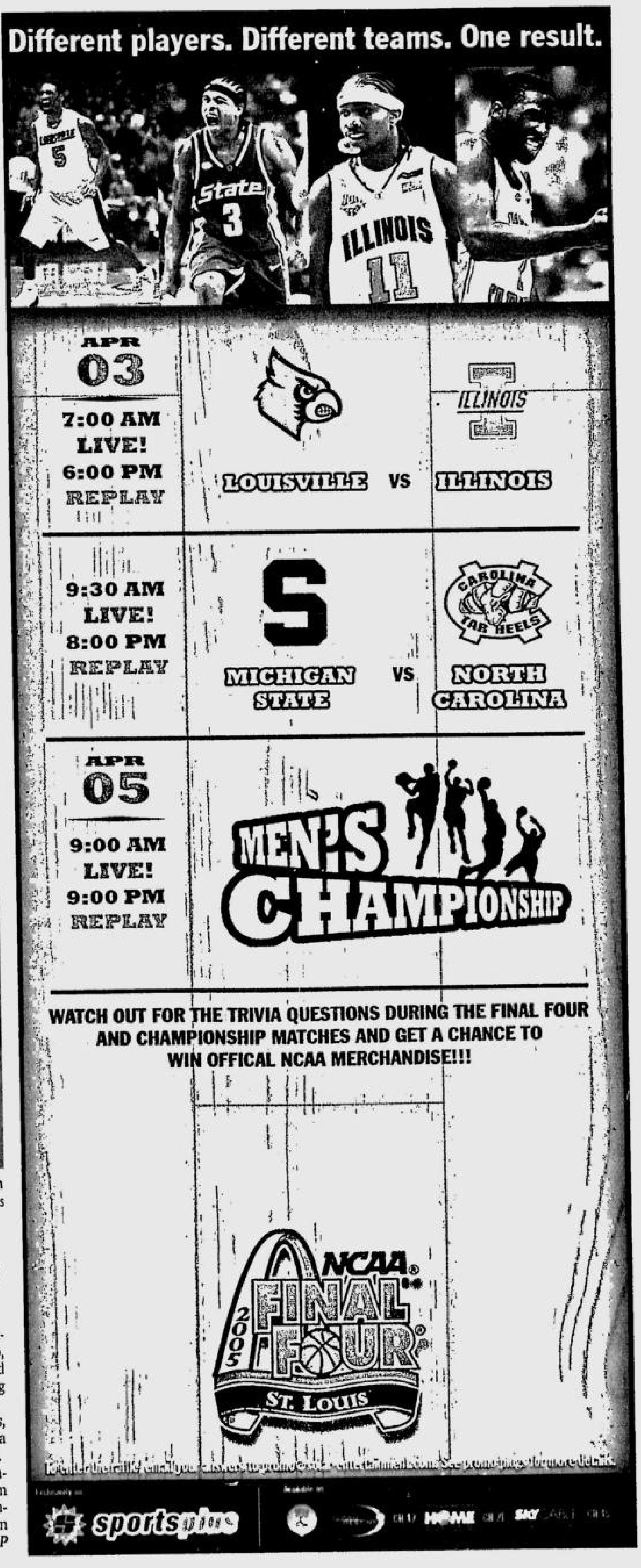
and the Orioles appear to be a good the wake of his messy split with the he Dominican slugger has found happiness amid teammates delighted to have him in their clubhouse.

During his 13-year stint with the Cubs, Sosa often punctuated his home run trot by twice tapping his heart, under the big red "C" on his jersey. The fans at Wrigley Field chanted his name, begged for his autograph, and greeted him in right field before every inning.

But things turned sour last season. Sosa spent a month on the disabled list with a back injury and hit only 35 homers, ending a run of six straight seasons with at least 40 home runs. He also feuded with Cubs manager Dusty Baker over his spot in the lineup, alienated some of his teammates, and capped it all by leaving the ballpark during the final game of the season.

So the Cubs traded him to the Orioles, and now Sosa finds himself adjusting to a new clubhouse for the first time since 1992.

"The way that I'm feeling here is just incredible," he says. "All the respect that I'm getting from all my teammates and my manager, I really like that. It made me like born again. I feel very, very happy about this." *AP*


Different players. Different teams. One result.

APR 03
7:00 AM LIVE!
6:00 PM REPLAY
LOUISVILLE VS ILLINOIS

9:30 AM LIVE!
8:00 PM REPLAY
MICHIGAN STATE VS NORTH CAROLINA

APR 05
9:00 AM LIVE!
9:00 PM REPLAY
MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP

WATCH OUT FOR THE TRIVIA QUESTIONS DURING THE FINAL FOUR AND CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES AND GET A CHANCE TO WIN OFFICAL NCAA MERCHANDISE!!!

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

JANLEY Patrona of St. Benilde (left) foils Lyceum's Alfredo Montemayor at the La Salle Greenhills court.

NCAA champs make quite a start

REIGNING champions in the NCAA made their presence felt at the start yesterday of the 9th Nestea Beach Volley Luzon eliminations at the La Salle Greenhills sand-court.

St. Benilde, men's NCAA champion, blew hot and cold to beat Lyceum, 21-14; while PCU-Manila, the women's NCAA champion, whipped PATTS Aeronautical School, 21-10.

The opening day of the annual event presented by Nestle signaled the start of this year's battle for beach volley supremacy among 72 teams from Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.

The Luzon eliminations will last two more days with the top four teams in the men's and women's divisions earning slots to the semis and grand finals in Boracay on May 5 to 7. There are 16 men's and 16 women's teams from Luzon.

The Visayas and Mindanao eliminations will be held April 5 to 7 also at La Salle Greenhills, probably the only school in Metro Manila that maintains its own sand-court.

Other early winners in the men's division were San Sebastian Cavite over La Salle, 21-16; University of the Philippines over University of Cordilleras, 21-14; and Far Eastern U over Ateneo, 21-9.

Winners in the women's side were St. Benilde over Lyceum, 21-12; Adamson over San Sebastian Cavite, 21-15; University of Baguio over St. Louis University, 21-5; Ateneo over Letran, 21-15; FEU over St. Jude College, 21-11; and La Salle over UP, 21-10.

Arnold Laniog and Janley Patrona of St. Benilde are tipped to go all the way to Boracay, despite the fact that they haven't had any practice since winning the NCAA title over PCU last month.

Patroña, however, appeared to be the better player yesterday, scoring kills with impunity and putting on a good defense. He said reigning Nestea champion San Jose Recoletos remains the team to beat this year.

This year's sponsors are Speedo, Mikasa, Cebu Pacific, Hey Jude Resorts, La Salle Greenhills, Villa de Oro, Coppertone, Boracay Regency, Le Soleil, Power Plant Mall, National Sports Grill and Click the City.com.

Champion teams will receive P100,000 each and P50,000 worth of sports equipment for their respective schools.

Gritty Groth shocks Shokeen; Sayer wins

By Musong R. Castillo

AUSTRALIA'S Samuel Groth outlasted Indian top seed Vivek Shokeen in a marathon battle, 6-4, 6-7(4), 7-6(2), yesterday to barge into the semifinals of the 16th Mitsubishi Lancer International Junior tennis championships yesterday.

In yet another hot and humid day at the Rizal Memorial hardcourts, Groth won out in a battle between two aggressive baseline sluggers to set up a Final Four clash with Hong Kong's Martin Sayer, who also pulled off a three-set win.

Ranked 154th in the world, Groth made sure he wouldn't repeat his mistakes in the second-set tiebreak, winning the first three points of the third to wrap up the match in two hours and 20 minutes.

"I lost my focus in the (second set) tiebreak," the 17-year-old Groth said. "But I learned my lesson and tried to keep my poise in the next (tiebreak). I was playing with good rhythm out there."

The semifinals start at 9 a.m.

Sayer came back from a lopsided first-set loss to pummel Ruben Bemelmans of Belgium, 3-6, 6-4, 7-5, getting the crucial break in the 11th game of the deciding set.

Japan's Shuhei Uzawa, unseeded like Groth, sent Brit Chris Eaton packing via a 7-6(2), 6-4 decision to march on opposite No. 6 Kuwaiti Abdullah Magdas, a 6-4, 6-1 winner over Taiwanese Lee Hsin-han, the 14th seed.

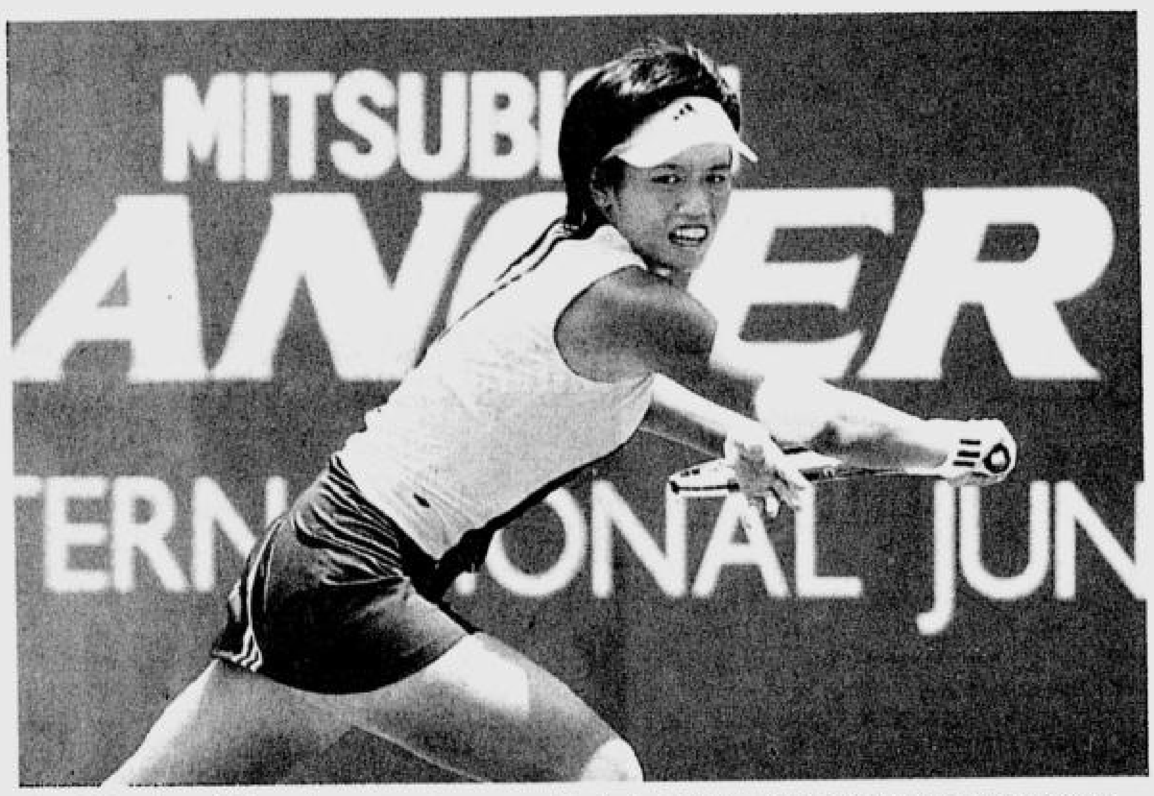
Taiwan, however, sent three players to the girls' semifinals with tournament No. 1 Chan Yung-jan leading the way.

The 15-year-old, ranked seventh-best in the world, breezed past seventh seed Amina Rakhim of Kazakhstan, 6-1, 6-3.

Michaela Buzarnescu of Romania, the fourth seed, will meet Chan for a place in the title match after sixth seed Vania King pulled out at the start of the match because of a shoulder injury.

Hwang I-hsuan showed girls' No. 2 Caroline Wozniacki the door after a 7-6(2), 6-2 victory that assured Taiwan of at least one player in the finals, with the draw pitting her against compatriot Hsu Wen-hsin.

Hsu, the third seed, was in complete command against unseeded Zhang Ling of Hong Kong and took a 6-3, 6-4 victory in just over an hour.



CHAN Yung-jan of Taiwan lunges to return a serve by Amina Rakhim of Kazakhstan during their match yesterday. Chan won to advance against fourth seed Romanian Michaela Buzarnescu. ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

SPORTSWATCH

Davao City hosts NAGT triathlon leg

FROM the Visayas, triathlon goes to Mindanao as Davao City hosts the second leg of the 2005 Speedo-National Age Group Triathlon (NAGT) series tomorrow. The event is expected to be joined in by 50 triathletes, including first-leg champion Gerrie Calinawan of Cebu City who is looking at back-to-back titles in his quest for the overall NAGT championship. The 750-meter swim-40-K bike-5-K run event, locally organized by Vic Sai and sanctioned by the Triathlon Association of the Philippines (TRAP), will be held at the grounds of regular host venue Waterfront Insular Hotel-Davao. TRAP president Tom Carrasco Jr. expressed hope that more regional venues will be discovered for this triathlon developmental program. "We would welcome local government units as partners in hosting NAGT legs," said Carrasco. This year, aside from Danao City in Cebu and Davao City, TRAP has scheduled Speedo-NAGT legs in Lake Caliraya in Laguna (April 17), Clearwater Country Club inside Clark Field, Alaminos in Pangasinan, Cagayan de Oro, and Ayala-Alabang. Program sponsors include Speedo, PowerBar, David's Salon, Asian Centre for Insulation, Stronghold Insurance, and Reliv together with the PSC and the POC Sports for All Commission.

Wilson badminton today at Pioneer

A HUGE field of 224 players are seeing action in the 1st Wilson Badminton Tournament which fires off at 9:40 a.m. today at the Pioneer Badminton Center in Mandaluyong City. Jake Saberon, Neil Ong, Jervy Espiritu, Cathy Kuan, Ronald Garcia, Cris Faustino and Susan Luminarius head the entries in the tournament divided into three divisions—men's doubles (11 levels), women's doubles (eight levels) and mixed doubles (eight levels). The second-day matches tomorrow will start at 9 a.m. and end at 4:20 p.m. Organizers said the awards night will be held at the Blue Onion R\Bar and Restaurant. The tournament is sponsored by Philippine Daily Inquirer, INQUIRER Badminton Monthly, Badminton Philippines, The Mellow Touch 94.7 and Blue Onion Bar.

MM Darts Circuit 4th leg under way

THE FOURTH leg of the Metro Manila Darts Circuit will be held this weekend at the Bonfire Grill of the Riverbanks Center in Marikina City. The tournament, open to all Darts Council of the Philippines members, features a classified doubles tournament and a novice and rated singles event. Supported by Toby's Sports, Winmau Darts and Terton Craft, the tournament stakes cash prizes and ranking points to the top eight players in the singles event for the novice and rated divisions. First to be held is the classified doubles event which starts at 8 p.m. today. Mode of play is killers, 701, double knockout. Tomorrow, the novice and open singles events will start at 4 p.m. Mode of Play is 501, best-of-7 legs in the eliminations and best-of-9 in the crossover semifinals. For inquiries, call DCP director Babet Andrada at 0921-3761902 or the DCP secretariat at telefax 843-6456.

Female basketball refs? Why not!

FEMALE applicants are welcome to join today's first three-day School of Officiating and Advanced Refereeing (SOAR) beginners' clinic to be conducted by former National Basketball Association referee Jesse Thompson at the Reyes Gym in Mandaluyong City. International Basketball Academy (IBA) chair-president Xavy Nunag also asked walk-in participants to come for registration one hour before the 9 a.m. start. Fee is P1,500. The training module includes practical work in game-like situations and video analysis of their work. Referees with experience will have their own three-day seminar on April 18, 20 and 22. They will have the chance to prepare for the International Association of Accredited Basketball Officials (IAABO) exam. For inquiries, call the IBA at 631-1195, 09217562639 or email at iba_phil@yahoo.com.

NCA 7-cocker kicks off Tuesday

TOP-FLIGHT cockfighting action returns at the 17,000-seat Araneta Coliseum on Tuesday and Thursday with the staging of the National Cockers Association (NCA) 7-Cock Derby featuring some of the country's leading cockersportsmen. Hosts Jun and Rudy Jingco, Jet Fernando, Madlambayan Brothers, John Capinpin and Ruel Feliciano have invited more than 40 participants to the event. The 3-cock elimination round on Tuesday will start at 4 p.m. due to the big number of fights. Participants must submit their entries on Monday from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. For inquiries, call 911-3101 and 911-2928. Meanwhile, preparations have started for the staging of the second leg of the 2005 World Slasher Cup 8-Cock Invitational Derby on June 14, 16 and 18.

50 fights on tap at Las Piñas derby

WELL-KNOWN cockers and gamefowl breeders from Batangas, Laguna, Cavite and Metro Manila are seeing action in a special 3-cock derby tonight at the Las Piñas Coliseum. The 50-fight program sponsored by Sagupaan Complexor 3000 stakes a total cash prize of P300,000, according to derby hosts Monching Adriano and Dandan and Julius Canumay. Entry fee is pegged at P5,500. Entries will be accepted until 2 p.m. For details, call 873-1040 and 874-3910. Also slated at the cockpit is the GCAP 7-Cock Derby on Monday and Wednesday. Meanwhile, coliseum manager Alex Tobias said that a bonus prize of P10,000 awaits the winners of the No Entry Fastest Win One-Cock Ulutan held every Thursday. Each winner every Friday gets P500.

Fastest Win Challenge starts early

WITH over 300 entries competing, Roligon Mega Cockpit's 501 Fastest Win Challenge One-Cock Ulutan will start early at 7 a.m. today. According to derby hosts Preco Reyes and Abraham Bernales, this battle royale of small-time cockers and breeders will be fought until midnight. Winners of fight numbers 1 to 59 will get P2,000 each as bonus. The grand champion will receive P100,000; second, P70,000; third, P50,000, fourth, P30,000 and fifth, P20,000. The sixth to 25th placers, as well as the slowest champion, will also get prizes. A total pot of P501,000 will be distributed to the winners. For inquries, call 833-2275, 833-1638 and 852-9812.

NEW BREED

Young Peña tipped to shine in AF3

BRITISH driver and 2002 Asian Formula 3 champion Mark Goddard, keeping his faith on the young Filipino entries in the 2005 season of the AF3 circuit, says a new breed of stars will definitely rise from the ranks of today's hopefuls.

Goddard calls the young Filipino racers "babies of motorsports," but yesterday placed his bet on 17-year-old Dado Peña, saying that, among the young guns in this year's races, Peña has the best chance of winning the crown.

Goddard has signed Peña to carry the banner for Team Goddard Minardi Team Asia, believing in the young rider's ability to give the team the needed push for its collective drive for the overall individual and team championships.

"I'd like to think Peña does have a very good chance of winning," Goddard said. "We'll do our best to give him the best cars we have."

But the driver in Goddard also sees another young Filipino rider to give Peña a tough time, not to mention the strong field out to deflect all efforts to come from the locals' side.

Tyson Sy, another 17-yeard-old rider who has jumped out of the promotions class to join Peña in the "big boys' race," has hooked up with Speedtech Asia Team of Edgen Dy-Liacco, making this year's races, backed by Addict Mobile, Motolite Battery, Boysen, Yokohama Tires, Lima City Hotel and PLDT MyPad, doubly interesting.

"He (Sy) also has a strong chance of winning. *He's really a contender," said Dy-Liacco of his ward in the circuit that has Magic 89.9, Jam 88.3, Wave 89.1, 99.5 RT and 103.5 K-Lite as media partners.*

AF3 Corp. chair Ed Peña said four races in this year's 2005 circuit will be aired live on the Internet through the facilities of PLDT (www.pldtmypad).

"Racing aficionados can watch the races from anywhere in the world," said Ed Peña. "It's going to be exciting seeing our local drivers competing against the foreign field."

Last year's overall champion, Christian Jones of Australia, is back to defend his crown, along with 2004 runner-up John O'hara of Ireland. Out to crowd them and the young guns is Indonesian rider Ananda Mikola.

The lineup:

Team Goddard Inc.—Dado Peña, Greg Murphy; Speedtech Asia—Tyson Sy, Roland Hermoso; Shell helix Kinetic PCSO—Pepon Marave, James Winslow, Lee Farell; Denso Hanjin JF3—Katsuhiro Konno, Robert Block; Christian Jones Motorsports—Christian Jones, John Marcelo; Fujitsu Ten Toyota Team Tom's—John O'Hara, Rodolfo Avila; Three Bond—Ananda Mikola; Team TEC Asia—Enzo Pastor; Tuason Racing—JP Tuason.

Get into the Game!
THE 200 MILO YOUTH
SUMMER TENNIS PROGRAM

PALAWAN CHAMPS—Winners of the Milo Junior Tennis Cup and Regional Workshop held recently at the Puerto Princessa Tennis Club with club president Boy Dacuan (second from right), Rene Selmar (extreme right) and coach Joe Paquia (extreme left)

Milo junior tennis tilt fires off in Imus

THE PROVINCE of Cavite takes centerstage when the Imus Tennis Club hosts the 2005 Milo Junior Tennis Cup and Regional Workshop from today to Sunday.

After a successful sojourn in the Visayas and Mindanao, the Milo meet organized by the Children's Tennis Workshop, backed by adidas and sanctioned by the Philippine Tennis Association swings back to Luzon and the Big City.

Featured events in the tournament, which will be held under the auspices of lawyer David Alarcon, ITC president, are the boys' and girls' 18-under, 16-under, 14-under, 12-under and the unisex 10-under divisions.

Manny to train in new gym, away from spies

From page A22

turn to the ring in July against a still unnamed opponent. "I'll stay in a place where no one can see me. This way, no one can study my moves."

Pacquiao admitted earlier that his much-hyped training sessions at the Wild Card Boxing Club in Hollywood, owned by his American trainer Freddie Roach, partly affected his conditioning in his last fight.

"We couldn't turn people away at Wild Card," he said. "So I plan to train in Arizona or Big Bear, California."

Pacquiao is also reportedly set to file a case against American promoter Murad Muhammad for not giving his share in pay-per-view revenues.

"*Mahabang panahon niya na akong niloloko* (He has been cheating me for years)," said Pacquiao, noting that he only has one more fight to fulfill before his contract with Murad expires.

Pacquiao said he and his new manager, Shelly Finkel, were determining how much he really owes the US Internal Revenue Service in terms of taxes. Pacquiao's American lawyer Keith Davidson alleged that Pacquiao's former handlers, including business manager Rod Nazario, had been remiss in their duties to properly pay the US government taxes for his fights dating back to 2001.

Pacquiao's July fight will serve as a tune-up for his rematch against Morales within the year.

"I've already accepted that I lost," said Pacquiao, who remained the Ring Magazine's featherweight king despite his recent defeat. "In every loss, I learn something. I'll be more focused in my next fight."

PHILIPPINE Senior Bowler (PSB) president Roger Lombos awards former World Cup champion Bong Coo her first senior ladies masters champion's trophy during the PSB-Boysen Senior Bowlers Tenpin Bowling Championships at Green Valley Country Club recently. The Timberpro-sponsored Coo bowled 1988 pinfalls during the 10-game finals. This is Coo's 108th Masters title and her first after retiring from active competition four years ago.

Paragua nearing super GM level

HE'S not even a full-fledged Grandmaster yet, but already Mark Paragua is playing near the level of a super GM.

The April edition of the ranking chart released by the World Chess Federation underlined Paragua's top billing among the world's International Masters with his Elo of 2596, just four points shy of the super GM level.

Paragua, also the highest rated Filipino, gained 10 points from the previous release after finishing as vice champion in last December's Singapore Open where he bagged his fifth GM result. Indon GM Susanto Megaranto won via the tie-break.

"The GM title will come," said Paragua, now ranked No. 149 in the world. "I'll just concentrate on playing."

Second in the list of highly rated IMs was Hao Yin of China with 2583 Elo while at third was Yuriy Kuzubov of Ukraine with 2558.

Just turned 21 years old, Paragua first broke into prominence when he emerged the 1998 World Rapid Under-14 champion.

Since then he has won many international tournaments, distinguishing himself in the 2003 Vietnam Southeast Asian Games when he emerged the most bemedalled Filipino with three golds.

Paragua, pride of Marilao, Bulacan, also emerged as the region's second highest rated player behind Vietnamese super GM Dao Thien Hai's 2609.

Locally, Paragua is ahead of GM Eugene Torre, who has an Elo of 2530 and former No. 1 GM Joey Antonio, who slid to third with 2513 after a poor showing in the Montreal International tournament in Canada last January. *Marlon Bernardino*

PARAGUA: Playing like a full-fledged grand master PDI FILE PHOTO

Mark eyes crown in Mindanao tilt

THE COUNTRY'S top players, led by IM Mark Paragua and GMs Eugene Torre and Joey Antonio, are seeing action in the Mindanao leg of the Filway/Time Life Open Active Chess Championship starting today at the Entertainment Area of SM City-Davao in Davao City.

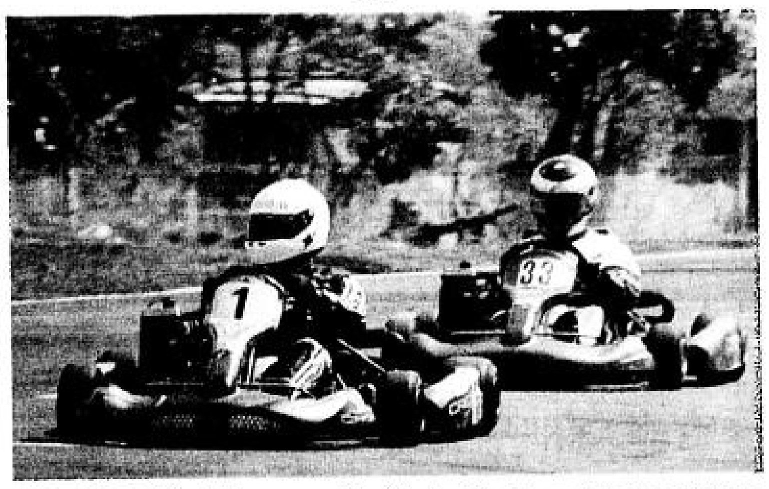
Also competing are reigning National Open champion National Master Darwin Laylo and local masters Winston Silva, Reggie Olay and Prospero Cruz.

The two-day tournament supported by Filway Marketing President/CEO Hector Tagaysay is divided into four categories—the Open, Women's, Boys' 12-Under and Girls 12-Under.

The tournament offers P30,000 to the Open champion, P10,000 to the Women's champion and P4,000 each to the Boys 12-under and Girls 12-under champions.

Call project director Willie Abalos at 0921-6219898 or tournament director Ronnie Tabudlong at 0918-9067233. *Marlon Bernardino*

Stockringer-Guidicelli renew rivalry



MATTEO Guidicelli shows way for Marlon Stockinger in a recent race at the Carmona Circuit.

MARLON Stockinger of Birel-Fila hopes the track changes will work in his favor as he eyes a second straight win over reigning Karter of the Year Matteo Guidicelli of the Cebu Racing Group in the second leg of the 2005 Shell Helix Superkarting Series today at the Boom na Boom Kart Trak of the CCP Complex in Roxas Boulevard.

Stockinger stunned Guidicelli last year in the Intercon-A class on the same venue which was then just a 450-meter track. This time, the track has been stretched to 650 meters with challenging hairpins and intricate curves.

Stockinger and Guidicelli are also bringing their rivalry to a higher level—the Formula Rotax Max Seniors, which boast the biggest field of 23 karters in this event sponsored by the Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corporation, Denso Iridium Power, Bridgestone by Phil. Allied Ent. Corp., DMCI Homes, Eastway Motorcycle Racing, Khaos and Aviva Insurance.

In the kickoff leg, Guidicelli was dicing with Marcel Thenu for the lead, but Stockinger made a last ditch maneuver on the main stretch for the surprise victory.

Also chasing the Rotax Max Seniors crown are Ivan Carapiet of the Cebu Racing Group, Bosch-Intelco drivers Marty Aguilar, Oliver Aquino and Daniel Cleak, Maico Angeles of Primus Racedevils and Allan Uy of Alessandra Racing, fresh from a big win in the 2005 Thailand National Series in Chonburi.

Also favored in this series are Thenu and Tom Stockinger in the Formula Rotax Masters and Jean Marcelo in the Formula Rotax Novice division.

MICROVAN
(02) 984-0278/79
MEGA SALE!
on April 22, 2005 • STARTS AT 8:30 A.M. SHARP

Philracom lashes back at detractor

THE PHILIPPINE Racing Commission yesterday accused unlicensed horse owner William Dagan of resorting to vicious personal attacks against officials of the Commission who have refused to give in to his recommendations.

"Bidding to rally support for his whimsical crusade against the Philracom, Dagan once again used the privilege of media to publicize his filing of charges against seven Philracom officials before the Office of the Ombudsman," Philracom chief Jaime Dilag said.

Dilag said Dagan has been alienated from the majority of race horse owners who have supported the Philracom's policy on mandatory testing of horses to detect the presence of the dreaded Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA) virus.

The incurable horse disease, the Philracom said, can potentially wipe out the local race horse population.

Dilag said Dagan has decided to get back at the policymakers by his filing of rehashed charges of alleged irregularities.

"Mr. Dagan is not a licensed race horse owner at present, having refused to abide by the duly approved rules and regulations governing the conduct of local horse racing, particularly in regard to his adamant refusal to submit his horses to mandatory EIA testing," Dilag explained.

All of Dagan's horses previously stabled at the San Lazaro Park in Carmona, Cavite, were barred from the said facility as a result of a Club Rule disallowing the entry or stabling of horses that have tested positive for EIA infection or whose owners have refused to submit them for EIA testing.

"Despite his numerous attempts to vilify us and our policies, we have continued to elevate our level of discussion in meetings held in and out of the Commission," said Philracom Commissioner Eduardo Jose.

Extreme Taekwondo Challenge at Atrium

ASTONISHING taekwondo skills, techniques and displays will be the main fare when the first Extreme Taekwondo Challenge erupts today at the Atrium of the Megamall in Mandaluyong City.

Veering away from the usual combat-style of competition, the Extreme Taekwondo Challenge is a one-of-a-kind kickfest pitting promising taekwondo jins against established stars.

While most taekwondo competitions dwell on martial arts combat between two opposing forces, this event, which is supported by SM Megamall, Netopia, Peak Sports and Fishermen's Friend, focuses on the techniques used in the sport and how they can be incorporated with dance or music.

"The Extreme Taekwondo Challenge will highlight the best from the Philippine Taekwondo Association, primarily in freestyle forms and breaking boards, with more emphasis on the dynamic kicks and multiple board breaking," said organizer and tournament chair John Paul Ampongan, a 7th Dan taekwondo black-belter.

Over 100 finalists culled from a stringent screening process during the elimination last March 19 at the Central Gym, Rizal Memorial Sports Complex, are expected to pit skills and guts in the one-day grand finale, where renowned experts such as Monsour del Rosario, Roland Campos and Lito Ong will be the judges.

Categories are individual freestyle poomse (children's, juniors and seniors), group freestyle poomse and freestyle poomse (multiple and single board). Participants must be bonafide PTA members.

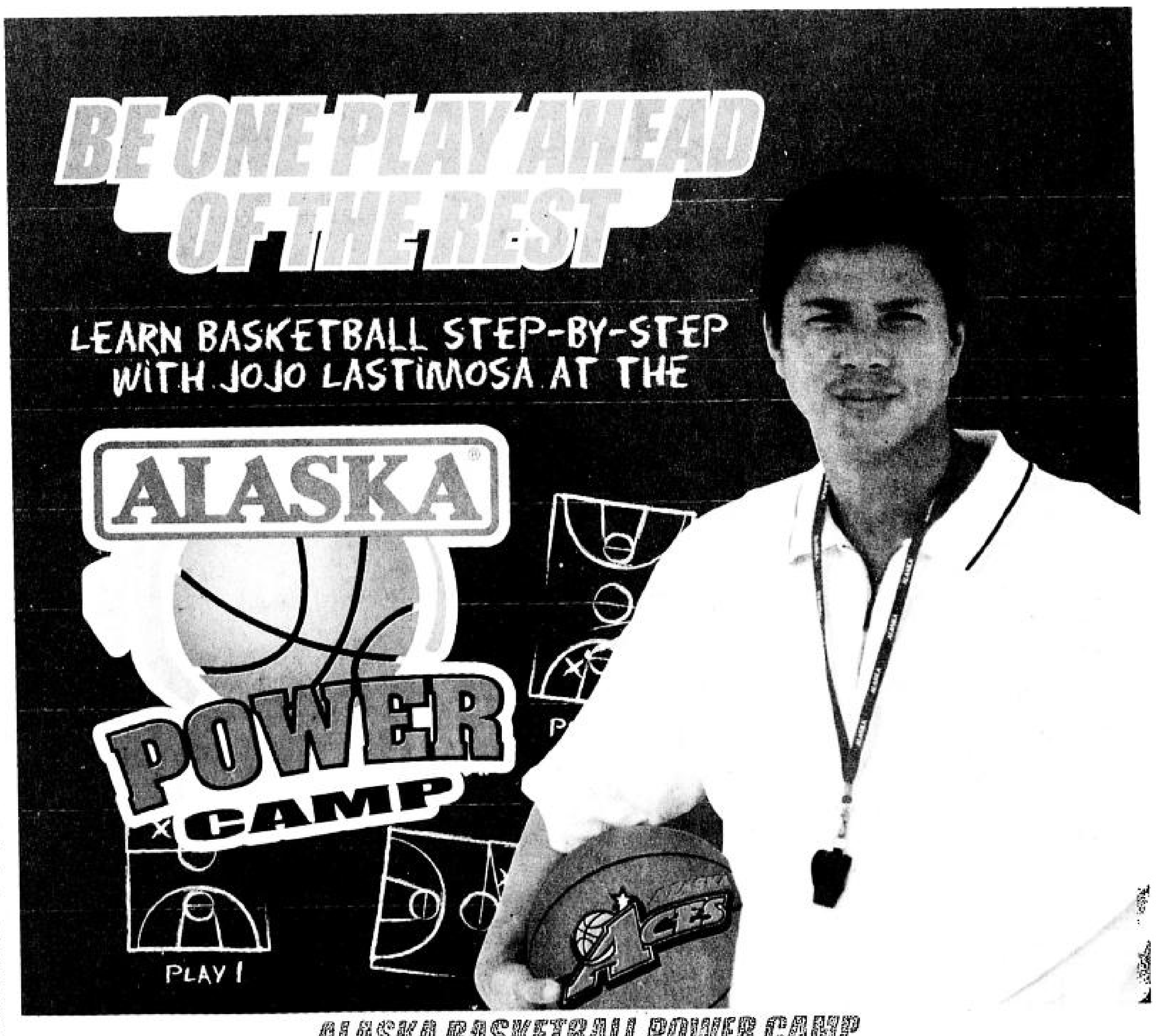
Finalists in the individual and group freestyle poomse will be asked to do their routines highlighted by the sport's known techniques.

Intervillage tilt starts

SIXTY teams from villages in Quezon City will be vying for various titles in the 10th Alliance of Quezon City Homeowners Association Incorporated (AQCHAI) Intervillage basketball tournament kicking off today at the Tivoli Royale Country Club in Batasan Hills, Quezon City.

Quezon City Councilor Winston Castelo will be the guest of honor in the 3 p.m. opening ceremony of this event sponsored by Filipinas Palm Oil, Eng Bee Tin, Stik-O, The Insular Life Assurance Co. Ltd., Tivoli Royale Country Club, Pepsi and Spring Cooking Oil.

AQCHAI president Jess Cifra said door prizes will be drawn. For details, call Danilo Mendoza at 0917-8384642 or Jordan Tolentino at 9329384 or 0919-2704582.


BE ONE PLAY AHEAD OF THE REST
LEARN BASKETBALL STEP-BY-STEP WITH JOJO LASTIMOSA AT THE
ALASKA
POWER CAMP
PLAY!
ACES

ALASKA BASKETBALL POWER CAMP

Schedule

METRO MANILA:
Date:
Module 1: April 9, 10, 13, 16, 17, 20, 23, 24
Module 2: May 7, 8, 11, 14, 15, 18, 21, 22
Time: 8:00 am - 11:30 am
Venue: Ateneo de Manila College Covered Courts
Fee: P3,500 per participant
(includes free shirt and basketball from AND1)
Open to boys and girls 7-20 years old

CAGAYAN DE ORO:
Date: May 25, 26, 27, 28
Time: 8:00 am - 11:30 am
Venue: Xavier University Backcourt
Fee: P1,800 per participant
(includes free shirt and basketball from AND1)
Open to boys and girls ages 10-20 years old

NAGA CITY:
Date: April 27, 28, 29, 30
Time: 8:00 am - 11:30 am
Venue: Ateneo de Naga Covered Courts
Fee: P1,800 per participant
(includes free shirt and basketball from AND1)
Open to boys and girls ages 10-20 years old

Registration details:

1. **Alaska Milk Corporation**
6F Corinthian Plaza Bldg.,
121 Paseo de Roxas, Legaspi Village
Makati City
Tel No: 840-4500 local 171
Email: jolas@alaskamilk.com.ph

2. **Metro Manila**
Ateneo De Manila University
Loyola Physical Education Program
c/o Alex Torres - Director
Tel no: 426-6001 loc. 5017

3. **Cagayan de Oro**
Danny Lastimosa 0917-7064198 or (0882) 712-167

4. **Naga**
Ateneo de Naga
Aik Albao (Director of Athletics)
0927-9320538
(054) 473 8447 loc 2072

5. On-line registration at www.alaskamilk.com.ph or www.alaskaaces.com.ph

another sports event brought to you by:
ALASKA
ALASKA MILK CORPORATION
AND1

Top junior shuttlers gun for q'final slots

THE COUNTRY'S top junior players take center stage today as they seek quarterfinal berths in the two-category JVC Badminton Open Juniors Championships at SM North Edsa.

Focus will be on the girls' 14-under category where the likes of Bianca Legaspi, Jessalam Sampurna, Kiara Castelo and Camille Yang gun for quarterfinal berths in the tourney, which also features talents in the 10-under group.

Quezon City Mayor Sonny Belmonte will be the guest of honor in the opening rites set at 2 p.m. Others gracing the event are Travel Trade PCVC deputy executive director Cynthia Carrion, JVC president and CEO Hideyuki Takato, JVC GM Kazue Salud, and SM Supermalls executives Ruby Reyes and Robby Decena.

Featured matches: Legaspi vs Jeryss Wu; Sampurna vs Marie Arsenio; Castelo vs Dianne Reina; Yang vs Gelita Castillo; Abigael Garcia vs Ma. Lourdes Gaspar; May Pamorada vs Ellie Huang; Cheli Rivera vs Pia Fabros; Danica Bolos vs Patriya Pattamadilok.

Bear Brand kitefest moved

THE LUCENA leg of the 15th Bear Brand Kitefest, originally scheduled on April 17, has been moved to May 8. Event venue is still the Alcala Sports Complex of the Quezon National High School in Lucena City.

Kite enthusiasts from regions 1-5, CAR and NCR may join the kitefest where thousands of pesos in prizes are at stake. The contest is divided into four age groups and three categories: Flat, Geometric and Figure.

hub
BE FIRST.
NOKIA
Desk ♡ All
Telephone
Messaging
Contacts
Calendar
Mobile Ticker
Music player
Realplayer
Visual Radio
TOP STORIES
BUSINESS
GLOBE INFOCAST
News Flash! Philippine peso appreciates

COVER STORY:

Mobile Ticker:
Real time news flash
Powered by myGlobe

Enjoy it with the new
Nokia 7710
Nokia's biggest widescreen
Multimedia phone

- Touchscreen device with Handwriting recognition
- 1 Megapixel Camera/1 Hr Video Recording
- Digital Music Player and FM Radio
- SMS/MMS/E-mail/Web Mail. Internet Surfing. Video Streaming and Blogging over EDGE
- Expandable Memory (128MB MMC included) with Bluetooth and USB connectivity

Be Big News

Limited Offer
Free at G Plan 3500.
Minimum two-year subscription
Promo period: April 2 - April 15, 2005. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1831 Series of 2005.

Get the genuine unit only at the HUB. Rockwell. Greenbelt. Glorietta. The Podium. Greenhills. www.hub-eshop.com

NOKIA
CONNECTING PEOPLE
Globe
HANDYPHONE

SATURDAY *Special*
Text us your feedback: inquirer sat name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)
E-mail: pr_saturday_special@inquirer.com.ph
Editor Nestor U. Torre
Assistant Editor Rito P. Asilo

Jane Fonda, Debra Messing in feisty new comedies

By Nestor U. Torre

LAST year, it was Barbra Streisand who made her film comeback after a long hiatus, by playing Dustin Hoffman's spaced-out wife in "Meet the Fockers." Now, it's Jane Fonda's turn to step in front of the motion-picture camera again, after an even longer absence—15 years!

During all those years, Fonda was sent a lot of film scripts for her consideration, but chose to pass on all of them—until the screenplay for her new film, "Monster-in-Law" came her way.

Mature actress

What was there about this movie that got to her, enough for her to shake loose the cobwebs and get back to film work? Well, the movie's title says it all: The title character would make Cruella De Ville look like a marshmallow, just the sort of really evil character a mature actress would love to sink her glinting teeth into.

Another attraction was the fact that Fonda's "victim" in the movie was no less than Jennifer Lopez, who isn't exactly a pushover. So, Fonda's "monster" character has to work even harder to show Jennifer who's boss!

If Jane Fonda is facing the movie camera for the umpteenth time, 2005 is an equally memorable time for TV star Debra Messing, because she's topbilling her biggest starrer.

FONDA. Portrays "evil" character in comeback movie.

MESSING. Hires perfect escort in "Wedding Date."

"Wedding Date" casts the "Will and Grace" sensation as a single girl in New York, who has to attend the wedding of her spoiled half-sister, where the best man is her ex-boyfriend!

That's a potentially traumatic experience, so Messing's character, Kat, tries to get out of it, but can't. She knows that everybody will be wondering how she's doing after her failed relationship, but she doesn't have a new boyfriend to sport, so she does the next best thing: She hires a professional escort to impress her friends and relatives.

Stringent list

To make sure that she gets the best that money can buy, Kat comes up with a stringent list of requirements: The escort must be willing to travel (the wedding will be held in London), he has to have great social skills, a suave demeanor and a sharp mind, own a tux, and be so good-looking that he will make her ex-boyfriend terribly jealous, and turn other women green with envy.

And the winner is?—Dermont Mulroney!

Convincing

Yes, the dream escort, Nick, is winningly played by the popular young actor, and he's so convincing as a charmer that Kat finds herself really falling in love with him!

Obviously, this movie is a twist on "Pretty Woman," where Julia Roberts played the escort hired by Richard Gere. But, "Wedding Date" goes beyond the obvious derivation, to score points of its own in the love-for-hire film game.

Although Messing is best known for her work on "Will and Grace," she has also appeared on the big screen in films like "A Walk in the Clouds" with Keanu Reeves, and "Hollywood Ending" with Woody Allen. But, "Wedding Date" is expected to be her biggest film hit to date.

Woody Allen's latest film is both comic and tragic

NEW YORK—Woody Allen doesn't give many interviews. But when he does, he'll talk about anything.

His pessimism. Why he keeps making films. The many ways a movie can go wrong. The Soon-Yi "scandal" years ago. Even how lucky he feels with the way his life turned out, personally and professionally—although gloom looms over him continually.

There were no limits to a recent conversation with Allen, indicating just how self-possessed the three-time Academy Award winner is. He's not "on" or displaying that Woody Persona so many of his fans love, but he's still funny and self-deprecating—starting with the revelation that he thought he'd learn something from making his latest film, "Melinda and Melinda," as both comedy *and* tragedy.

Thin line

"But I learned nothing," he says with a chuckle. "I say the same thing now as I said when I began . . . the cliche—that there's a thin line between comedy and tragedy. And it's true. I guess that's why it's a cliche."

He had hoped to discover a greater insight than that.

Reviewers who dislike his newest production, which stars Radha Mitchell as a troubled woman whose woes affect the people around her, complain that it lacks polarity—the humorous rendition of the story isn't that hilarious, and the serious version isn't that tragic.

That's OK with Allen, who says he doesn't pay attention to critics. And while he maintains comedy and tragedy are separated by just a couple of degrees either side of a psycho-emotional equator, most of the time, it falls heavily on one side for him.

"There are some laughs you have in life, provided by comedians and provided by fortuitous moments with your family or friends," he says. "But, most of life is tragic. You're born, you don't know why. You're here. You go, you die. Your family dies. Your friends die. People suffer. People live in constant terror. The world is full of poverty, corruption, war and Nazis, and tsunamis . . . The net result is, you lose—you don't beat the house.

ALLEN. Funny and self-deprecating.

"If you were lucky, healthy and rich, and everything worked out for you, you could laugh your whole life. But ultimately, what is it? It's less than a microsecond in the long run."

And yet, the 69-year-old writer-director says he was "lucky from the start."

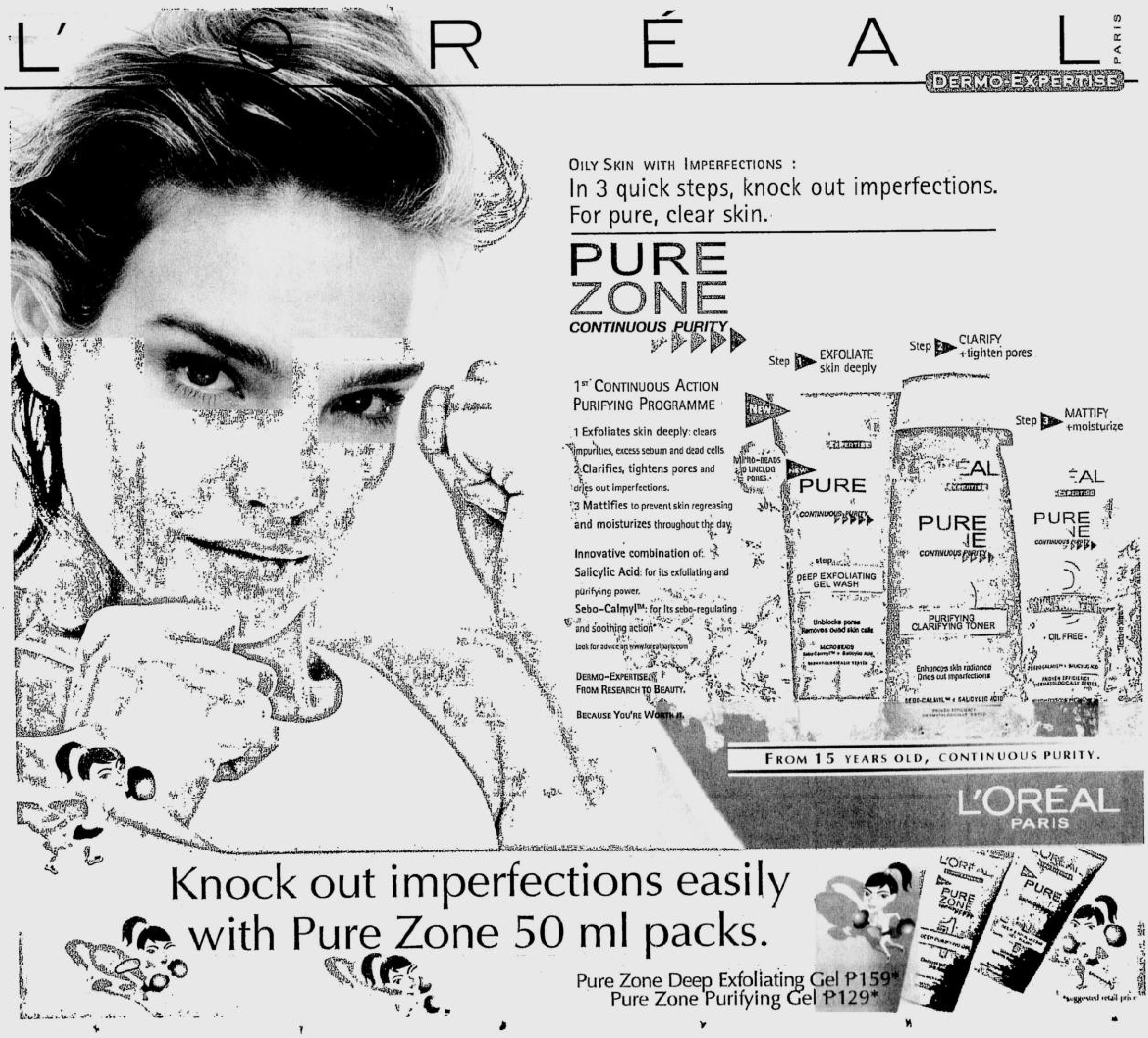
"I had a good childhood, and my parents were healthy. (Both died in recent years; his father lived to be 100, his mother to 95.) I was successful at what I wanted to do. And now in my later years, I've got a happy marriage and two lovely kids."

Speck

Hold on, though. Before your synapses can fire on the thought that Allen has a panglossian side, he races back to the idea that a human life span is just a speck on the timeline of the universe.

"But, even for the luckiest people, you know, you carve out a little oasis for yourself for a short period of time, but then," he says, snapping his fingers, "that's it."

WOODY/A2-4



L'ORÉAL PARIS
DERMO-EXPERTISE

OILY SKIN WITH IMPERFECTIONS :
In 3 quick steps, knock out imperfections.
For pure, clear skin.

PURE ZONE
CONTINUOUS PURITY

Step 1 EXFOLIATE skin deeply
Step 2 CLARIFY +tighten pores
Step 3 MATTIFY +moisturize

1ST CONTINUOUS ACTION PURIFYING PROGRAMME
1 Exfoliates skin deeply: clears impurities, excess sebum and dead cells.
2 Clarifies, tightens pores and dries out imperfections.
3 Mattifies to prevent skin regreasing and moisturizes throughout the day.

Innovative combination of:
Salicylic Acid: for its exfoliating and purifying power.
Sebo-Calmyl™: for its sebo-regulating and soothing action*
Look for advice on www.lorealparis.com

DERMO-EXPERTISE.
FROM RESEARCH TO BEAUTY.

BECAUSE YOU'RE WORTH IT.

FROM 15 YEARS OLD, CONTINUOUS PURITY.

L'ORÉAL PARIS

Knock out imperfections easily with Pure Zone 50 ml packs.

Pure Zone Deep Exfoliating Gel ₱159*
Pure Zone Purifying Gel ₱129*
*suggested retail price

'Rent,' 'Wonder Woman' get big-screen treatment

SHOW BIZ Q & A

Rito P. Asilo

FROM Alicia Mercado: "I am a big fan of musicals and superhero flicks. Whatever happened to the movie versions of 'Rent' and 'Wonder Woman?'"

It looks like you have something to rejoice over, Alicia. Chris Columbus ("Harry Potter," "Home Alone") is currently filming the big-screen adaptation of Jonathan Larson's Tony and Pulitzer-winning rock musical, "Rent" (based on Puccini's "La Boheme"), about Bohemians in the East Village of New York City struggling with life, love and AIDS.

Original cast

The movie version, slated for a November release, stars Rosario Dawson ("Alexander"), who edged out Broadway star Daphne Rubin-Vega as Mimi. The film includes some of the stage musical's original Broadway cast like Taye Diggs (Benny), Jesse L. Martin (Tom), Idina Menzel (Maureen), Adam Pascal (Roger), Anthony Rapp (Mark) and Tony winner Wilson Heredia (Angel).

Columbus, who is producing Tim Story's movie adaptation of "Fantastic Four" (starring Chris Evans, Jessica Alba, Ioan Gruffudd, Michael Chiklis and Julian McMahon as Doctor Doom), is also slated to direct "Sub-Mariner," about the half-amphibian, half-human superhero from Atlantis, based on another popular comic-book character.

DAWSON. Sings for the first time in movie version of hit musical.

CAGE. "Superman's" loss is "Ghost Rider's" gain.

On the other hand, DC Comics' biggest superheroine, "Wonder Woman," finally gets her big-screen treatment from Joss Whedon ("Buffy, The Vampire Slayer"), who will write the script and direct the movie for Warner Brothers.

Comic-book heroines ("Elektra," "Catwoman") have not been successful on the silver screen of late, but a kick-ass script and the right choice of actress should fix that.

The Internet grapevine is tossing the names of Sandra Bullock (who once played Wonder Girl to Lynda Carter's Wonder Woman on the boob tube), Angelina Jolie, Kim Basinger, Charisma Carpenter, Minnie Driver and, again, Rosario Dawson. It looks like the next "Wonder Woman" isn't going to be some toothsome, pubescent teen queen, huh?

Nicolas Cage may have lost "Superman's" coveted red cape to newcomer Brandon Routh in Bryan Singer's movie about the Man of Steel, but the Oscar winner has since moved on—to another costumed comic-book hero: "Ghost Rider." The film, directed by Mark Steven Johnson ("Daredevil"), which also stars Eva Mendes ("Hitch"), Wes Bentley ("American Beauty") and counterculture icon Peter Fonda, is currently wrapping up principal photography in Australia.

* * *

Last call for New Voice theater workshops

Bitten by the performing bug? The New Voice Company ("Cabaret," "The Vagina Monologues," "Angels in America," "The Blue Room," "Rent") is offering intensive acting classes for the summer. I am currently conducting a special by-audition-only musical theater course (for teens and adults) at the NVC Actors Studio in Makati.

GANNABAN AND JAMORA. NVC instructors.

RADA-trained Jenny Jamora facilitates the adult acting class, Hong Kong Disneyland-bound Rabbi Gannaban teaches the teens class, and April Celmar, China Tapia and Nikki Ventosa, who trained at the Centerstage Performing Arts School in London, handle musical theater for kids. Call 896-5497 or 896-6695.

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION
MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING

SHANG CINEPLEX
6th floor Shangrila Plaza EDSA corner Shaw Boulevard, Mandaluyong City
Telephone: 633.2227 / 6337851 loc. 171
1 (DOLBY) PACIFIER GP
2 (DOLBY) MISS CONGENIALITY 2 PG13
3 (DOLBY) BE COOL PG13
4 (DOLBY) ALONE IN THE DARK R13
PREMIERE
(DOLBY) ROBOTS GP

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72
1 (DDS) BOOGEYMAN
2 (SDDS) HITCH
3 (DTS) CONFIDENCE
4 GOLD (DTS) ROBOTS
5 GOLD (DOLBY) MISS CONGENIALITY 2
6 GOLD (SDDS) THE PACIFIER
7 GOLD (DOLBY) BE COOL
8 BAHAY NI LOLA
9 HOSTAGE
10 ALONE IN THE DARK

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
(Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave (C-5) Quezon City)
tel 687.6963 or 72
1 (DOLBY) BE COOL
2 (DOLBY) PACIFIER
3 (DOLBY) MS. CONGENIALITY 2
4 (DOLBY) ALONE IN THE DARK

CINEMA 2000
Cinema 2000 Waltermart Makati
Waltermart Center, Chino Roces Ave. cor. Antonio Arnaiz Pio del Pilar, Makati City
Tel 816.4214 / 816.4216
1 MISS CONGENIALITY
2 ALONE IN THE DARK
3 ROBOTS
4 PACIFIER

Araneta Center
CINEMA GUIDE
For Inquiries Pls. Call TICKETNET 911-5555
GATEWAY CINEPLEX 10
Level 4, Gateway Mall
The First and Only Real Cineplex in the Philippines!
ALL THEATERS IN DOLBY EX ULTRA SOUND, FULL STADIUM SEATING AND EXCLUSIVE VISTA COMPUTER TICKET SYSTEM GUARANTEED SEATS, NO STANDING ROOM
BE COOL
ROBOTS
MISS CONGENIALITY 2
HOSTAGE
THE PACIFIER
BOOGEYMAN
HITCH
ALONE IN THE DARK
LEMONY SNICKETS
MILLION DOLLAR BABY
ALI MALL CINEMAS
1 MISS CONGENIALITY 2
2 THE PACIFIER
3 BOOGEYMAN
4 ALONE IN THE DARK
5 SHAOLIN VS. EVIL DEAD

CINEMA 2000
Movie Theatres of the New Millenium
Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383
1 CONFIDENCE
2 (DTS) HOSTAGE
3 (DOLBY) WITHOUT A PADDLE
4 FIVE CHILDREN
Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146
1 CONFIDENCE
2 (DOLBY) HOSTAGE
3 (DTS) SORUM
4 GAWI NIGHTMARE
Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771
1 BAHAY NI LOLA
2 MASK-2 SON OF THE MASK
3 (DOLBY) LEMONY SNICKETS
Cinema 2000 Metrotown
(Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729
1 BAHAY NI LOLA
2 NED KELLY
3 (DOLBY) ROBOTS
4 (DTS) CONFIDENCE
Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Plaridel) tel (044) 795 3320
1 CURSED
2 ROBOTS
3 (DOLBY) HITCH

SUPER CINERAMA
Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto
tel 733.4238
1 (DOLBY) RESERVED
2 RESERVED
3 RESERVED
4 RESERVED
5 RESERVED

Maragana CINEMA
(Pasay) tel 833.3290 / 833.3274
1 ALONE IN THE DARK
2 PACIFIER
3 MISS CONGENIALITY

MARKETPLACE
Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856
1 HELLWOLF
2 EXTREME FORCE
3 RESERVED
4 SECRETARY

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470
1 ALONE IN THE DARK

starmall Movies
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Mandaluyong) tel 724.4986
1 RESERVED
2 RESERVED
3 GALING GALING MO BABES
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL EX) MS. CONGENIALITY 2
5 SHAOLIN VS' EVILDEAD

METROPOLIS star
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Alabang) tel 850.4285
1 ALONE IN THE DARK
2 SHAOLIN VS' EVILDEAD
3 RENOVATION
4 RENOVATION
5 (DOLBY) MS. CONGENIALITY 2
6 THE PACIFIER

starmall Movies
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Las Pinas) tel (047) 237.7007
1 (DOLBY) CHAIN OF COMMAND
2 RENTAL RESERVATION

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03
1 (DOLBY EX) HOSTAGE
2 FIVE CHILDREN
3 (DTS EX) FINAL CUT
4 MILLION DOLLAR BABYS

Cine Nepo
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.0121
1 MILLION DOLLAR BABYS
2 FINAL CUT
3 (DOLBY) HOSTAGE
4 (DTS) FIVE CHILDREN

Cine Nepo
(Dagupan City) tel (075) 515.8409
1 MASK-2 SON OF THE MASK
2 LEMONY SNICKETS
3 (DOLBY) BUNSHINSABA
4 (DTS) BAHAY NI LOLA

Centre Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007
1 MASK-2 SON OF THE MASK
2 BAHAY NI LOLA

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276
1 (SDDS) LEGENDARY STREET FIGHTER
2 HAPDI NG TAGINIT
3 KARANASAN
4 (DTS) SORUM

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202
1 (DOLBY) CONFIDENCE
2 FIVE CHILDREN
3 (DTS) HOSTAGE
4 KAPITBAHAY
5 LEGENDARY STREET FIGHTER

Mega Center Mall
(Cabanatuan City) tel (044) 463.3283
1 BAHAY NI LOLA
2 NED KELLY
3 (DTS) ROBOTS
4 (DOLBY) HITCH

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790
1 MASK-2 SON OF THE MASK
2 NED KELLY
3 BAHAY NI LOLA
4 ROBOTS

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029
1 KISKISAN
2 ALONE IN THE DARK

MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

Sequel doesn't live up to its title

By Noelani Torre

THE ROCK (CENTER). Shines as a gay bodyguard who wants to make it in the movies.

MOVIE titles like "Be Cool" are adored by critics and reviewers—it makes thinking of puns and snappy one-sentence verdicts much easier. Now that we've seen the film, we have one of our own: "Be Cool" hardly lives up to its title. Nor does it live up to its predecessor, 1995's cynical comedy, "Get Shorty."

Sequels are risky, but all the right elements for this particular one seemed to be present. Like "Get Shorty," "Be Cool" is based on a tight and tough Elmore Leonard novel. It has a director (F. Barry Gray) well-versed in creating punchy action, and a cast of good actors: John Travolta, Uma Thurman, Vince Vaughn, Harvey Keitel, etc.

Celluloid

What works well on paper doesn't always translate well into celluloid, however, and though everyone in this enterprise tries hard, they don't quite succeed. Perhaps it's because one senses that they're trying *really* hard. Good comedy is effortless, after all, and unfortunately for "Be Cool," it has effort stamped all over its glitzy surface.

TRAVOLTA AND THURMAN. Parody scenes from "Pulp Fiction" and "Saturday Night Fever."

"Be Cool" reintroduces us to the ice-cold Shylock named Chili Palmer (Travolta), who got into Hollywood from the mob scene in "Get Shorty." He decides that it's time to get into the music scene.

A number of elements for a good satire are present, but nothing gets off the ground because the script (by Peter Steinfeld) just doesn't work. It plods along like a doped elephant, occasionally bumping into funny areas, but never getting on the right road.

Self-referential

The humor in "Be Cool" is self-referential. It attempts to parody itself by having Travolta's character speak contemptuously of sequels, putting Travolta and Thurman on a dance floor in reference to a famous "Pulp Fiction" scene (which was itself a reference to "Fever"), and having Steven Tyler say that he doesn't need to be in a movie at this point of his career, and so on.

Length is one of the film's main problems. The plot is typical Elmore Leonard—messy and twisted—which necessitates a light touch and snappy scenes. This isn't what we get in "Be Cool," however, which dwells too long on superfluous scenes and creates looseness where it should be tight.

Monologue

If you're going to watch this movie, watch it for a hilarious monologue rendering of the famous "Bring It On" dialogue by none other than The Rock. He plays a gay bodyguard who wants to make it in the movies, and his surprising performance is one of the few reasons why we're not writing this movie off as a total loss.

Araneta Center Leisure Guide

The Gateway Pavilion

CINEMA SCHEDULES
Gateway CINEPLEX 10
LEVEL 4, GATEWAY MALL
The Country's Largest Cinema with the Widest Screen
DOLBY DIGITAL-EX
ONLY P99 ADMISSION • P120 RESERVED SEATS
FOR INQUIRIES, PLEASE CALL TICKETNET AT 911-5555
BE COOL 12:10 / 2:30 / 4:50 / 7:10 / 9:30
ROBOTS 2:15 / 4:30 / 6:45 / 9:00
MISS CONGENIALITY 2 1:15 / 4:00 / 6:45 / 9:30
HOSTAGE 1:30 / 4:00 / 6:30 / 9:00
THE PACIFIER 1:20 / 3:55 / 6:30 / 9:05
BOOGEYMAN 12:00 / 2:15 / 4:30 / 6:45 / 9:00
HITCH 1:15 / 3:50 / 6:25 / 9:00
ALONE IN THE DARK 12:50 / 3:00 / 5:10 / 7:20 / 9:30
A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS 1:15 / 3:40
MILLION DOLLAR BABY 6:05 / 9:00
ALI MALL CINEMAS
① MISS CONGENIALITY 2 11:55 / 2:40 / 5:25 / 8:10
② THE PACIFIER 12:35 / 3:10 / 5:45 / 8:20
③ BOOGEYMAN 11:35 / 1:55 / 4:15 / 6:35 / 8:55
④ ALONE IN THE DARK 11:45 / 1:55 / 4:05 / 6:15 / 8:25
⑤ SHAOLIN vs EVIL DEAD 11:40 / 1:55 / 4:10 / 6:25 / 8:40
DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS
ARANETA COLISEUM EVENTS
2005 PBA FIESTA CONFERENCE APR.3
4.15pm TALK N' TALK vs. COKE 6.35pm PUREFOODS vs. ALASKA
2005 PBA FIESTA CONFERENCE APR.6
4.45pm SHELL vs. RED BULL 7.35pm STA.LUCIA vs. GINEBRA
THE CASCADES: LIVE IN MANILA
April 15 Friday, 8pm
RIVERMAYA & KITCHIE NADAL LIVE!
April 16, Saturday, 8pm
CENTER EVENTS
SALE EVENTS: Fornarina- Upper Ground Floor, Gateway Mall (ongoing until April 15)
NEW STORES: Mango and Figaro, both at the Upper Ground Floor of Gateway Mall
PERFORMANCES: Cooky Chua on April 3, Tropicana on April 8, Buhay on April 10, Shanice Michaels on April 9 at The Gazebo of Gateway Mall
LOG ON TO www.aranetacenter.net FOR MORE DETAILS OR TO SUBSCRIBE TO OUR WEEKLY E-MAIL ENTERTAINMENT UPDATES

Piolo Pascual is sure of himself

By Mary Ann A. Bautista

PIOLO Pascual has become intense, passionate with a hint of mystery, so his role as PJ in ABS-CBN's sitcom, "Bora," fits him well.

"I admit I'm a Mama's boy. That's OK, because that's how my mom brought me up. But she also raised me to be independent, focused and spiritual. I'm sure of myself and I know I'm not gay," Piolo clarifies.

He brushes off intrigues as well. "It's part of the business. *Kung walang intriga*, you don't exist. All actors pass through that. It's like a baptism of fire. But if you know who you are, *hayaan mo na*, it's going to pass *naman*. For me, it's all a game. You just have to know how to play it."

Romantic

He says he's romantic: "I love being loved and I love being in love. I love the thought of love. I believe in destiny. I believe in chocolates and roses. I believe in proper courtship.

"Nowadays, when you say you love someone, that's it. *Kayo na*. I would like to do it the old-fashioned way. But, I don't have a girlfriend now, because my priority is my career. I'm very passionate and intense in my work. 'Intense' is probably my middle name," he grins.

Well-planned

What's his ideal marrying age? "Thirty-two. My life is well-planned. By that time, I would have saved enough."

What makes a woman sexy? "Brains. There's nothing like the seduction of the mind. My ideal date would be on a beach: Lunch on a raft, enjoy nature and just talk all day to discover more about each other."

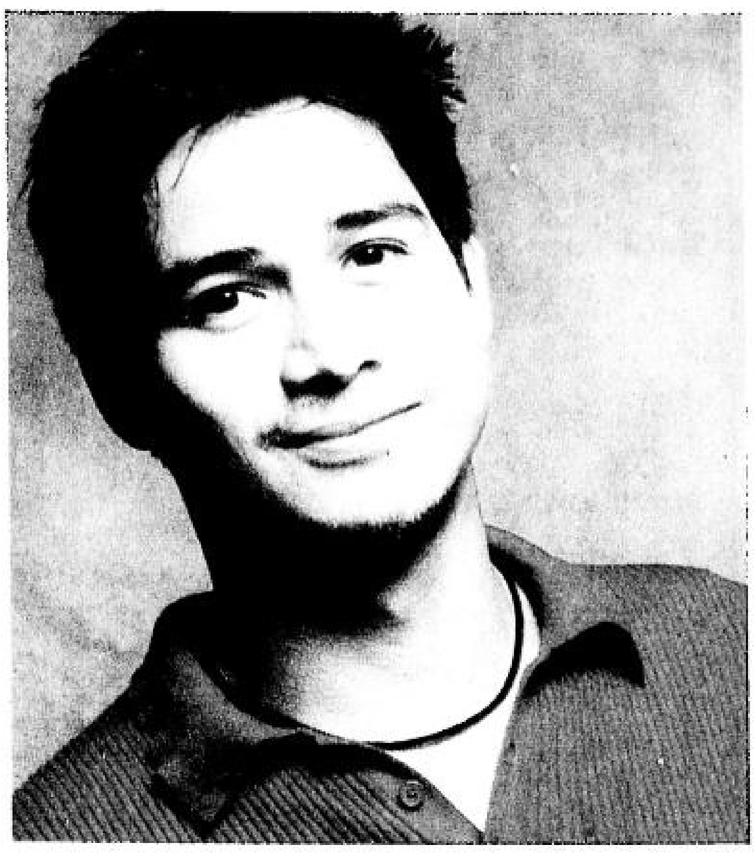
What turns him off? "Dishonesty and being pretentious. I don't want anyone na *pasosyal*."

How would he describe himself? "I'm very simple, quiet. I just hang out at home with my friends. I play pool. I even have a cue stick from Efren 'Bata' Reyes. I love playing with my nieces and nephews.

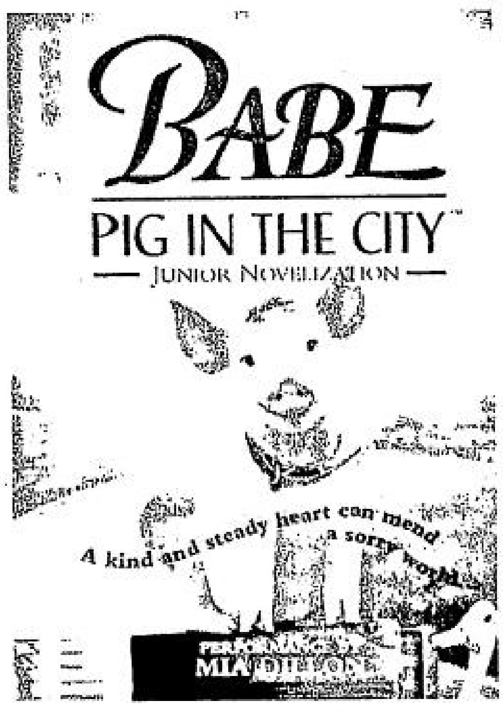
Homebody

"I'm a homebody. I do whatever I want to do at home. My room is my sanctuary, my playground. I play my CDs, light a candle, relax or sleep. Sometimes, I go to the gym."

What does he do for fun? "I love hiking. I used to go to Antipolo and Batangas with friends. I love nature, the beach. Going to the States is a great form of relaxation for me. I love traveling and going to different places. If I had my way, I'd go to a different country every week! I want to discover different places and cultures. I want to explore the world. Those expeditions make me grow!"



PASCUAL. His mom raised him to be independent, focused and spiritual.



"BABE." Underscores value of courtesy.

More values-laden films cited

By Nestor U. Torre

THINKING more positively, parental supervision of their children's viewing can be keyed toward pointing them to movies that promote specific values.

For instance, the values of duty and responsibility can be cinematically illustrated by films like "It's A Wonderful Life," "Roman Holiday" and "A Thousand Clowns."

"It's A Wonderful Life " shows how far our duty extends to those around us. Its central character, George, takes care of everyone because he knows he's the only one who can do it.

The values of honesty and integrity are vivified by movies like "The Fallen idol," "Pinocchio" and "The Emperor's New Clothes." These films show the destructiveness of a lie, the pressures to lie, and the power of telling the truth.

Empathy and compassion

For empathy and compassion, the suggested films are "The Gods Must Be Crazy," "The Philadelphia Story" and "The Prince and the Pauper." In the third movie, the young prince had not been able to develop compassion because he had not been aware of poverty and abuse until he went out into the world without the protection of his royal position.

The value of courage is best exemplified by "The Magnificent Seven" and "The Red Badge of Courage." High school kids may also appreciate "Captain Newman, M.D.," a comedy-drama based on a novel about an Army psychiatrist who must take soldiers sensitive enough to be deeply disturbed by war and heal them so they can be sent back to battle.

To underscore the value of courtesy, "Babe" and "My Fair lady" are cited as prime cinematic examples. Courtesy is deemed old-fashioned by some, but it remains crucial because it requires us to be sensitive to the feelings of others, and to show respect for them. In "Babe," the title character wins in the sheep-herding competition by promising to be kind and respectful to the sheep.

Fairness and justice

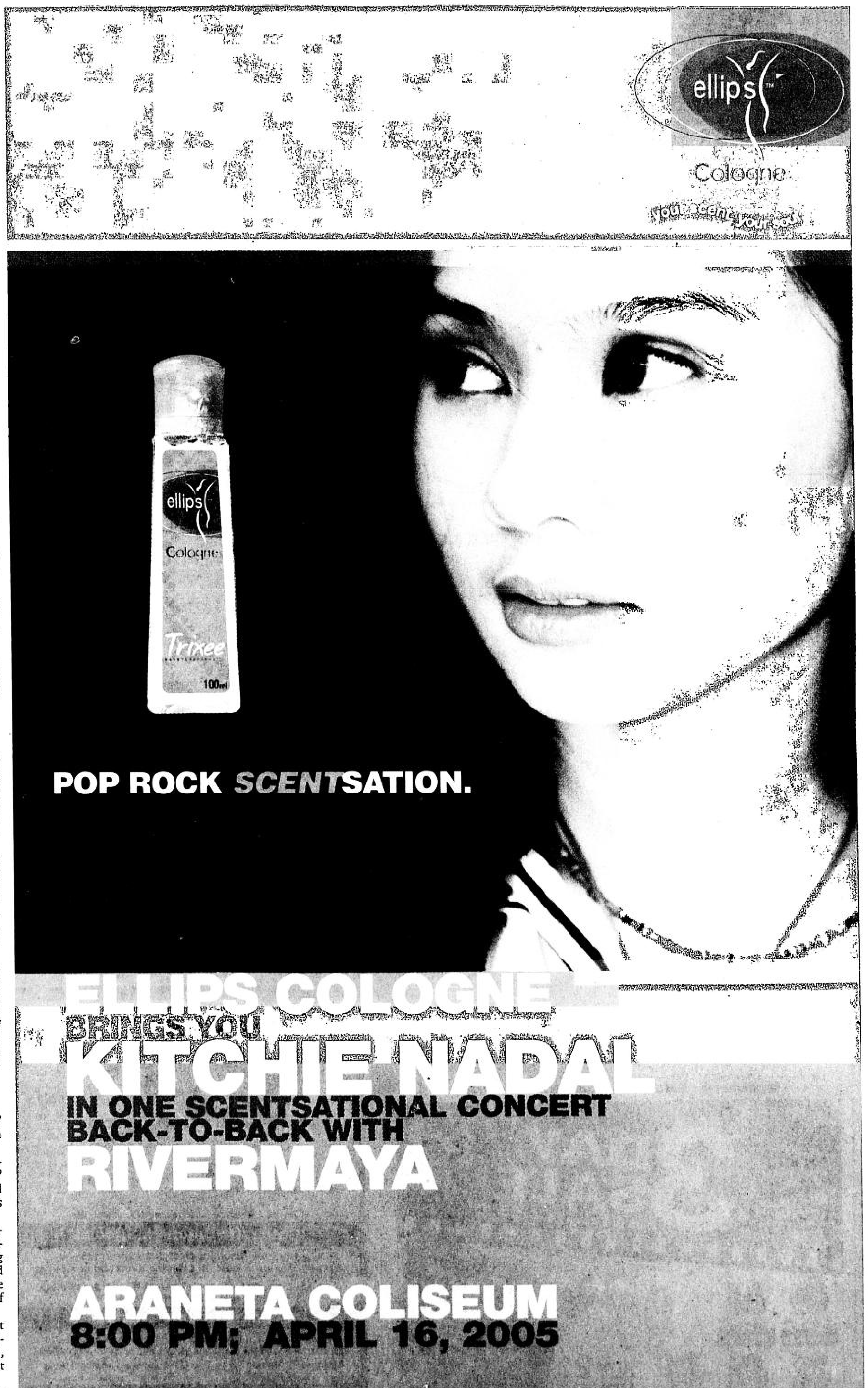
For fairness and justice, "Inherit the Wind" shows that, to be fair and objective, the truth must be upheld, no matter who gets hurt.

To dramatize the importance of helping others, "Bells Are Ringing" and "Lilies of the Field" are cited for going beyond compassion and making their protagonists take action in ways that make a difference in other people's lives.

To promote respect, "Bus Stop" and "Captains Courageous" are suggested as illustrative viewing fare. They are cited for showing that respect has a transformational effect, and thus should be encouraged. Even more tellingly, they prove that respect for oneself and respect for others are closely linked.

For the value of tolerance, "The Defiant Ones," "Fiddler on the Roof" and "Glory" uphold the equality of all races and religions, and expose the psychological violence that occurs when the principle is flouted.

And the virtue of loyalty is dramatized in movies like "The Caine Mutiny" and "Dead Man Walking." They show that loyalty is more than blind devotion: It requires a willingness to put others' interests ahead of ourselves.



POP ROCK *SCENT*SATION.

ELLIPS COLOGNE
BRINGS YOU
KITCHIE NADAL
IN ONE SCENTSATIONAL CONCERT
BACK-TO-BACK WITH
RIVERMAYA

ARANETA COLISEUM
8:00 PM; APRIL 16, 2005

Crisp, clear Ray Charles anthology

CHARLES. His musical legacy lives on.

By Noelani Torre

AMERICAN music great Ray Charles may be gone, but his music lives on. Charles, who died in June last year at 73, continues to make waves even after death. His name has been prominent at this year's movie and music awards—Charles reaped Grammys, and Jamie Foxx, the actor who played him in "Ray," nabbed an Oscar for his performance.

Directed by Taylor Hackford, "Ray" tells Charles' rags-to-riches life story, from his poor childhood in Georgia to his meteoric rise to fame in the history books of American music.

Suspicious

We're usually suspicious of soundtracks—most of the time, they're only used to make more money for producers—but this is Ray Charles' story, and music is central to the tale. This one is more than just a film's companion piece.

"Ray: The Original Motion Picture Soundtrack" features 17 original recordings by Ray Charles from the '50s and '60s, his most fruitful period.

Charles is known for his eclectic, out-of-the-box musical vision. Combining gospel, country, jazz and the blues, he paved the way for the inception of soul, even rock. He only wrote six of the songs here, but he put his own musical stamp on them—fast and animated piano and wonderfully evocative vocals.

This compilation features Charles' various forays into different genres, from the lively soulish first track, "Mess Around," to the country-flavored "Born to Lose," "Bye Bye, Love," and the blues-tinged "(Night Time Is) The Right Time." Also featured are live versions of several Charles standards—"Hallelujah I Love Her So," "What'd I Say," "I Can't Stop Loving You," "You Don't Know Me," and "Georgia On My Mind."

Good introduction

It's far from being the definitive collection, inasmuch as it doesn't include songs from the last 30 years of his career, but it serves as a good introduction to the man whose talent prompted some people to dub him "The Genius."

The CD's audio quality is also better than usual, with the sound as clear and crisp as modern technology can make it. You won't find any scratchy moments here, a testament to the great care that its producers took.

Ray Charles was truly a genius, and though a playlist of 17 songs can hardly embrace the scope of that genius, it makes for a nice little aperitif.

Search for affection

LOTUS POND

R. Valencia and S. Bismark

A MOTHER once lamented, "I feel despondent because my kids don't show me any affection." In another instance, a wife asked her husband, "Can you give me a hug?" And the husband replied, "You are so demanding." He was a responsible spouse, but at the time, his mind was preoccupied with other concerns.

In moments of vulnerability, we turn to people close to us for demonstrations of kindness and love. We sometimes wait in silence, eager for affection. When it doesn't come, we beg for it. A wife once commented, "Sometimes, I feel like a dog waiting for crumbs to fall off the table. I just take what is offered. And more often than not, there is nothing there."

Longings

We get frustrated in our search for love because we turn to imperfect persons who can't fully satisfy our longings. The sage Jagad Guru Siddhaswarupananda once said, "We are empty cups asking other empty cups to fill us up."

We look for the perfect friend, partner, parent, master or lover. We search for objects of love in school and at work. We look for our ideal lovers everywhere—in churches, in cyberspace. We look far and wide, but we often overlook the fact that He may just be close to us. He is always with us—watching over us, and waiting for us to turn to Him: the Supreme Person.

You don't need to beg or plead for affection because you have more than enough to give to others. The greatest love is not love of self, but love for God. It is the sweetest, most eternal and most satisfying of all. He exists, and He's for real. Love Him, and He will embrace you with His love.

Woody Allen . . .

From page A2-1

With an impish grin, he asks: "Am I depressing you?"

Some of his devotees sound depressed when they talk about his recent movies. For them, a Woody Allen film is an event, something to look forward to. A romantic, compelling letter from Manhattan, since the city often towers like a main character. A dispatch from smart, sophisticated people.

But no longer.

"Life has a malicious way of dealing with great potential," says a character in "Melinda and Melinda."

The filmmaker, whose career dates back to 1965's "What's New, Pussycat?," won Oscars for writing and directing 1977's "Annie Hall" and writing 1987's "Hannah and Her Sisters" and has collected 17 other Oscar nominations for such films as "Interiors," "Manhattan," "Broadway Danny Rose," "The Purple Rose of Cairo," "Radio Days," "Crimes and Misdemeanors," "Bullets Over Broadway" and "Mighty Aphrodite"—but none since 1998's "Deconstructing Harry." *AP*

SM CINEMA movietime™

JOHN TRAVOLTA UMA THURMAN
Be Cool
EVERYONE IS LOOKING FOR THE NEXT BIG HIT
VAUGHN ENTERTAINER
BENJAMIN TYLER MILIAN
KEITEL ROCK
DeVITO
NOW SHOWING AT SM CINEMAS!

SM CINEMA EXCLUSIVE

Witness the story of Sophie and Julien... Bestfriends and playmates in a lifetime game involving dares, and pretty soon, their hearts...
Are you game?
Love me if you dare...
Dont miss this #1 Smash hit from France!
Meet the dare only at SM Cinemas!

WICKEDLY DELICIOUS
Love me if you dare....
Are you game?

FOR INFORMATION ON MOVIE LISTING, MTRCB RATING, SCREENING, SCHEDULES AND THE LATEST HAPPENINGS AT SM CINEMA
CALLUS@ 833-9999
VISITUS@ www.smcinema.co

GUARANTEED SEATS

the podium cinema
1. THE PACIFIER
11:05 FS / 11:35 MF / 1:40 / 3:45 / 5:50 7:55 / 9:30 LFS / 10:00 LMF / 11:55 END
2. BE COOL
11:15 FS / 11:45 MF / 2:15 / 4:45 7:15 / 9:15 LFS / 9:45 LMF / 11:45 END
☎ 633-8976

sm megamall cinema 1
HITCH
11:35 FS / 12:00 MF / 2:25 / 4:50 / 7:15 9:15 LFS / 9:40 LMF / 11:40 END
☎ 633-1901

sm cebu cinema 1
THE FINAL CUT
12:00 MF / 1:54 / 3:48 / 6:42 7:36 / 9:10 LFS / 9:30 LMF / 11:05 END
☎ (032) 231-3876

METRO MANILA

sm megamall
1 HITCH
2 BOOGEYMAN
3 THE PACIFIER
4 MISS CONGENIALITY 2
5 BE COOL
6 ROBOTS
7 BAHAY NI LOLA 2
8 HOSTAGE
9 ALONE IN THE DARK
10 RESERVED
11 RESERVED
12 RESERVED

sm city fairview
1 CONFIDENCE
2 CONSTANTINE
3 CURSED
4 HOSTAGE
5 BAHAY NI LOLA 2
6 MS. CONGENIALITY 2
7 THE PACIFIER
8 ROBOTS
9 ALONE IN THE DARK
10 SHAOLIN vs EVIL DEAD
11 HITCH
12 MILLION DOLLAR BABY

sm city north edsa
1 RESERVED
2 RESERVED
3 BOOGEYMAN
4 HOSTAGE
5 ALONE IN THE DARK
6 MS. CONGENIALITY 2
7 BE COOL
8 THE PACIFIER

sm city manila
1 THE PACIFIER
2 HITCH
3 SHAOLIN vs EVIL DEAD
4 MS. CONGENIALITY 2
5 BE COOL
6 HOSTAGE
7 ALONE IN THE DARK
8 CONSTANTINE
9 ROBOTS
10 BAHAY NI LOLA 2
11 CURSED
12 BOOGEYMAN

sm city sta. mesa
1 RESERVED
2 RESERVED
3 RESERVED
4 LOVE ME IF YOU DARE smcinemaexclusive
5 MS. CONGENIALITY 2
6 ROBOTS
7 THE PACIFIER
8 BOOGEYMAN
9 BE COOL
10 ALONE IN THE DARK

sm city southmall
1 ALONE IN THE DARK
2 ROBOTS
3 RESERVED
4 RESERVED
5 HOSTAGE
6 BAHAY NI LOLA 2
7 BE COOL
8 THE PACIFIER
9 MS. CONGENIALITY 2
10 BOOGEYMAN

sm city bicutan
1 THE PACIFIER
2 MS. CONGENIALITY 2
3 BOOGEYMAN
4 ALONE IN THE DARK

sm cinema tutuban
1 RESERVED
2 RESERVED
3 RESERVED
4 RESERVED

sm supercenter sucat
1 ALONE IN THE DARK
2 BOOGEYMAN
3 THE PACIFIER
4 MS. CONGENIALITY 2

LUZON

sm city pampanga
1 HOSTAGE
2 CONFIDENCE
3 SHAOLIN vs EVIL DEAD
4 HITCH
5 ROBOTS
6 BAHAY NI LOLA 2

sm city baguio
1 BAHAY NI LOLA 2
2 MILLION DOLLAR BABY
3 INFECTION
4 ROBOTS

sm city batangas
1 ROBOTS
2 BAHAY NI LOLA 2
3 CURSED
4 BUNSHINSABA

sm city dasmariñas
1 MILLION DOLLAR BABY
2 BAHAY NI LOLA 2
3 FINAL CUT
4 THE PACIFIER

sm city marilao
1 CURSED
2 MILLION DOLLAR BABY
3 BUNSHINSABA
4 ROBOTS

sm city bacoor
1 MILLION DOLLAR BABY
2 ROBOTS
3 THE PACIFIER
4 BAHAY NI LOLA 2
5 SHAOLIN vs EVIL DEAD
6 MS. CONGENIALITY 2
7 HOSTAGE
8 CURSED

sm city lucena
1 PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
2 HITCH
3 LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS
4 ROBOTS

VISAYAS AND MINDANAO

sm city cebu
1 THE FINAL CUT
2 ASSAULT ON PRECINCT 13
3 RESERVED
4 RESERVED
5 BUNSHINSABA
6 BAHAY NI LOLA 2
7 HOSTAGE
8 HITCH

sm city iloilo
1 HITCH
2 RESERVED
3 SON OF THE MASK 2
4 BAHAY NI LOLA 2
5 THE AVIATOR
6 MILLION DOLLAR BABY
7 RESERVED
8 CURSED

sm city davao
1 ROBOTS
2 CUSED
3 SON OF THE MASK 2
4 BUNSHINSABA
5 BAHAY NI LOLA 2
6 HITCH

sm city cagayan de oro
1 HITCH
2 CURSED
3 BAHAY NI LOLA 2
4 SON OF THE MASK 2

SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

smmoviepromo
3 DAY SALE
April 1 · 2 · 3
SM City BATANGAS
SM City BICUTAN
SM City CEBU
SM City MANILA
SM City ILOILO
BUY 2 MOVIE TICKETS GET FREE

Cheeky Curlz

VISIT US AT www.jobmarketonline.com
JOB Market
From the nation's No. 1 Newspaper: INQUIRER
Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer.
JOB Market

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City
E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave. (C-5) Quezon City
Voted Best Movie Theater
-Philippine Daily Inquirer's 2004 Yearend Reader Survey
For inquiries, call: 687-6963
GUARANTEED SEATS
MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

1 BE COOL 12:00, 2:45, 5:30 8:15, 10:50 PG-13
2 PACIFIER 10:50, 1:15, 3:40 6:05, 8:30, 10:55 GP
3 MS. CONGENIALITY 12:10, 2:55, 5:40 8:25, 11:00 PG-13
4 ALONE IN THE DARK 1:10, 3:45, 6:15 8:45, 11:15 R-13

POWER PLANT CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41 DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX
ROBOTS GP 1:25,3:35,5:45,7:55:10:05
THE PACIFIER GP 1:10,3:20,5:30,7:40,9:50
THE PACIFIER GP 11:30,1:40,3:50, 6:00,8:10,10:20
BE COOL PG13 12:15,2:45,5:15,7:45,10:15
BOOGEYMAN PG13 1:25,3:35,5:45,7:55:10:05
MISS CONGENIALITY 2 PG13 12:50,3:15,5:40,8:05,10:30

star group of cinemas movie guide IN DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
starmall EDSA-SHAW Tel. No. 726.61.50
3 Galing Galing Mo Babes
4 Shaolin Vs Evil Dead
5 Ms Congeniality 2
METROPOLIS ALABANG star Tel. No. 850.42.85
1 Alone In the Dark
2 Shaolin vs Evil Dead
3 Renovation
4 Renovation
5 Ms Congeniality 2
6 Pacifier
starmall LAS PIÑAS Tel. No. 873.50.04
1 Chain of Command
2 Rental Reservation

THEATRE MALL GREENHILLS
a landmark reinvented! DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX
NOW SHOWING
CINEMA 1 PACIFIER 11:40, 2:15, 4:50, 7:25, 10:00 GP
CINEMA 2 MS. CONGENIALITY 11:20, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00 P13
TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.
GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA • 7224496
MUSIC MUSEUM
APRIL 9, 2005 TROY MONTERO 8:30PM
APRIL 28 2005 "LOVE IN APRIL" - PILITA CORRALES 7:30PM
FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION, PLS. CALL : 721-6726 OR 721-0635

SHANG CINEPLEX
① THE PACIFIER MTRCB: GP
② MISS CONGENIALITY 2 MTRCB. PG-13 11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15 10:00
③ BE COOL MTRCB: PG-13 10:50, 1:35, 4:20, 7:05, 9:50
④ ROBOTS MTRCB: GP 12:10, 2:35, 5:00, 7:25, 9:50
PREMIERE THEATRE THE PACIFIER MTRCB. GP
Movies and schedules are subject to change wihout prior notice
Catch the Cineplex Special
Enjoy 20% discount on Matinee Show tickets at the Cineplex, except on selected blockbuster movies.
From Monday to Friday: all Matinee Shows screenings are scheduled before 4pm.
Enjoy Double Treats
Get one (1) free URBANSPA Express Massage or a P250 Urban Spa cash coupon for every single purchase of four (4) Shang Cineplex (Cinema 1-4) or Two (2) Premiere Theatre tickets.
See posters and flyers for details Per DTI NCR Permit No. A3 183, Series of 2005
Regular Ticket Price
Cinemas 1 to 4 - P150
Premiere Theatre - P295 (includes unlimited popcorn and beverage)
Call 633 7851, loc. 171 or 633 2227 / 633 4736 for more details.
Shangri-La Plaza

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS MOVIE GUIDE

MOVIEWORLD

CINEMA ACCESS
635-5555
FOR ALL BRANCHES

www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

MOVIES/SCHEDULES/PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

GALLERIA

632-9115/16

1 HITCH • THX 12:00 2:35 5:10 7:45 10:00	**6 MS. CONGENIALITY 2** 12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00
2 BOOGEYMAN 10:55 1:10 3:25 5:40 7:55 10:00	**7 HOSTAGE** 12:00 2:30. 5:00 7:30 10:00
3 BE COOL 10:20 12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00	**8 ROBOTS** 12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00
4 ALONE IN THE DARK 12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00	**9 MILLION DOLLAR BABY** 1:40 4:35 7:30 10:00
5 PACIFIER 11:10 1:20 3:30 5:40 7:50 10:00	**10 CONSTANTINE** 12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00

ERMITA

536-7809 to 12

1 PACIFIER	11:00 1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50
2 HOSTAGE 10 20 12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00	**5 ALONE IN THE DARK** 10:55 1:05 3:15 5:25 7:35 9:45
3 MS. CONGENIALITY 2 10:20 12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00	**6 BOOGEYMAN** 11:00 1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50
4 HITCH 10:20 12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00	**7 BE COOL** 10:30 12.40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00

METRO EAST

682-8193 • 682-8199

1 ROBOTS 10:50 12:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:00	**5 PACIFIER** 10:50 1:10 3:30 5:50 8:10 10:30
2 HOSTAGE 10:30 1:10 3:50 6:30 9:10	**6 ALONE IN THE DARK** 12:30 3:00 5:30 8:00 10:30
3 CONSTANTINE 11:00 1:30 4:00 6:30 9:00	**7 BOOGEYMAN** 10:45 1:05 3:25 5:45 8:05 10:25
4 HITCH 11:00 1:30 4:00 6 30 9:00	**8 MS. CONGENIALITY 2** 11:50 2:30 5:10 7:50 10:30

NOVALICHES

935-3229/31

1 PACIFIER 11:00 1:00 3:00 5:00 6:45 8:30	**5 SHAOLIN VS. EVIL DEAD** 1:20 3:40 6:00 8:25
2 MS. CONGENIALITY 2 12:00 2:45 5:30 8:25	**6 ALONE IN THE DARK** 11:00 1:20 3:40 6:00 8:25
3 ROBOTS 1:20 3:40 6:00 8:25	**7 RESERVE**
4 HOSTAGE 12:50 3:20 5:50 8:25	**8 RESERVE**

PIONEER

687-5378

1 PACIFIER	3 BOOGEYMAN
2 ALONE IN THE DARK	4 MS. CONGENIALITY 2

CITISQUARE MALABON

288-2575

- 1 SHAOLIN VS. EVIL DEAD
- 2 HITCH
- 3 ROBOTS
- 4 MEET THE FOCKERS

CAINTA

240-4681

- 1 PACIFIER
- 2 MS. CONGENIALITY 2
- 3 HOSTAGE
- 4 CONSTANTINE

Asterix & Obelix
VERSUS CAESAR

Asterix & Obelix VERSUS CAESAR France's favorite funny cartoon heroes in live-action movie!

"The well-known little village from the Asterix and Obelix comic books is in trouble. It is the last place not controlled by Rome. When tax collector Claudius Incorruptus does not get his money from the villagers, Julius Caesar himself comes to the place to see what's so special about their resistance. A special magic potion, prepared by the village's Druid, gives incredible power to those who drink it. Obelix, who fell into the pot as a child, has been invincible ever since. With the help of Tullius Destructivus, an intriguer, the Romans try to get Obelix and the Druid into their hands in order to wipe the little village off the map, when the last potion of its stock has been used up. But each individual also has some plans of his own..."

watch it exclusively at

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD GALLERIA
april 06-12

STA. ROSA

(049) 837-0907

- 1 HOSTAGE
- 2 NIGHT JOB
- 3 SEED OF CHUCKY
- 4 CONFIDENCE
- 5 ROBOTS

LIPA

(043) 757-3664
(043) 312-5870

- 1 ROBOTS
- 2 IT'S ALL ABOUT LOVE
- 3 WITHOUT A PADDLE
- 4 BAHAY NI LOLA 2
- 5 SON OF THE MASK 2

DASMARIÑAS

(046) 852-2125
(046) 416-4332

- 1 MILLION DOLLAR BABY
- 2 SCHOOL FOR SEDUCTION
- 3 PACIFIER
- 4 IT'S ALL ABOUT LOVE
- 5 THE FINAL CUT

ANGELES

(045) 892-2348

- 1 MILLION DOLLAR BABY
- 2 HELLWOLF
- 3 THE FINAL CUT
- 4 HOSTAGE

IMUS

(046) 875-3838
(046) 471-8188

- 1 ROBOTS
- 2 SHAOLIN VS. EVIL DEAD
- 3 HOSTAGE
- 4 PACIFIER
- 5 5 CHILDREN AND IT
- 6 MS. CONGENIALITY 2

STARMILLS

(045) 875-1927
(045) 961-5270

- 1 ROBOTS
- 2 NIGHT JOB
- 3 HOSTAGE
- 4 CONFIDENCE
- 5 CURSED
- 6 SHAOLIN VS. EVIL DEAD

BACOLOD

(034) 441-0453
(034) 441-0459

- 1 MILLION DOLLAR BABY
- 2 HITCH
- 3 BAHAY NI LOLA 2
- 4 BUNSHINSABA
- 5 SON OF THE MASK 2
- 6 RAY

ILOILO

(033) 338-8070

- 1 CURSED
- 2 BAHAY NI LOLA 2
- 3 MILLION DOLLAR BABY
- 4 HITCH
- 5 RAY
- 6 SON OF THE MASK 2

MOVIE PASS
MOVIE PASS
MOVIE PASS

The
Perfect Gift
All Year Round

A Pre Paid Movie Pass to the Hottest Seats in town.

Get Special discounts for volume purchases!

For marketing and events/reservations please call Marketing Services Department at 687-7945 to 47 locals 14 and 15

AYALA CENTER GLORIETTA · ALABANG TOWN CENTER · AYALA CENTER CEBU · Lovemall!

SYBIL
MAKE IT EASY

April 7, 2005 • 7:00 PM
at the Glorietta Activity Center
Customer Service Hotline: 752-7272

April 8, 2005 • 6:00 PM
at the Activity Center
Customer Service Hotline: 842-2782 772-1860

April 9, 2005 • 8:00 PM
at the Lagoon
Customer Service Hotline: (032) 231-5342 loc. 324

AYALA MALLS
Lovemall!

VISA
All it takes.

Special Seats for Discount Plus cardholders and Visa Gold cardholders on a first come first serve basis. For more information, please call Customer Service Hotline.

Special seats for Visa Gold cardholders valid only for Ayala Center Makati show.

AYALA GREENBELT

Embassy of Finland
songs from the hit Broadway Musical Mamma Mia
April 1 & 2, 2005

At the Activity Center

GLORIETTA	ALABANG TOWN CENTER	AYALA CENTER CEBU
"Athleisure" It's a Girl Thang (LA Gear Event) April 2, 2005	Catch Sybil Live! as she sings her hit songs Make it Easy, Don't Make me Over April 8, 2005	Ragnarok Phil. Regional Finals (Visayas Leg) April 2-3. 2005

Onstage

REPERTORY PHILIPPINES presents
Whose Wife is it Anyway?
at REP's GLOBE THEATER for the Month of April
For inquiries, please call 887-0710

Ayala MUSEUM

Visit the New Ayala Museum located beside Greenbelt 4 along Makati Avenue.
For inquiries, please call 757-7117.

AYALA CINEMAS

THX

Movie schedules may change without prior notice. For verification call 729 7777

G4	GLORIETTA 4	1 BE COOL	2 BOOGEYMAN	THX MS. CONGENIALITY 2 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 GUARANTEED SEATS	
		4 HOSTAGE	5 ROBOTS	6 THE PACIFIER	7 HITCH
G1	GLORIETTA 1	1 BOOGEYMAN	2 MS. CONGENIALITY 2		
		3 THE PACIFIER	4 BE COOL		
ATC	ALABANG TOWN CENTER	THX 1 THE PACIFIER	2 BE COOL	3 MS. CONGENIALITY 2	
		4 ROBOTS	5 BOOGEYMAN		
ACC	ALABANG TOWN CENTER	1 ASSAULT ON PRECINCT 13	2 THE FINAL CUT	3 BUNSHINSABA	
		4 RAY	5 CLOSED		
GB1	GRENBELT 1	1 MS. CONGENIALITY 2 12:00, 2:25, 4:50, 7:15, 9:40			
		2 THE PACIFIER 10:55, 1:00, 3:05, 5:10, 7:15, 9:20			
GB3	GRENBELT 1	THX 1 MISS CONGENIALITY 2 1.35, 4.00, 6 25, 8 50, 11 15 GUARANTEED SEATS	THX 2 THE PACIFIER 1:35, 3 40, 5 50, 8 00, 10 00, 12:00 GUARANTEED SEATS	3 SPANGLISH 3.05, 5.35, 8 05, 10 35 GUARANTEED SEATS	
		4 BOOGEYMAN 1:30, 3 30, 5 30, 7 30, 9 30, 10 30 GUARANTEED SEATS	5 BE COOL 2:00, 4 30, 7 05, 9 30, 12 00 GUARANTEED SEATS		

NOW SHOWING AT AYALA CINEMAS
MTRCB Rating Parental Guidance 13 (PG-13)

Sandra Bullock
miss Congeniality 2
Armed and Fabulous
Don't judge an Agent by her cover.

Get 15% DISCOUNT from AKITA
for every purchase of a pair of MS. CONGENIALITY 2: Armed and Fabulous movie tickets from Glorietta 1 & 4 cinemas

Experience Show Business At Its Best!

Welcome to a **new level** of urban retail entertainment.

MyCinema is where you can **enjoy** the latest movies, hang-out and **party** or do impressive **presentations** and launches with the **well-chosen few**.

GREENBELT 3
mycinema

- 50 luxurious Ferco seats
- State-of-the-art Dolby EX sound format
- Tastefully modern cocktail and theater area

For inquiries & reservations, call 752-7862 or 757-3860 to 63

All-Digital Cinemas

MARKET! MARKET!
The *fun* is in the finds
Developed and managed by Ayala Land, Inc.

Movies are subject to change without prior notice.
Customer Service Hotline: 886-7515

Free Seating Cinemas: P70.00

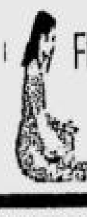
- ① Alone in the Dark
- ② Spanglish
- ③ Robots
- ④ Be Cool

Guaranteed Seats Cinemas: P90.00

- ⑤ Boogeyman
- ⑥ Miss Congeniality 2
- ⑦ The Pacifier

EVENTS! EVENTS!

MARKET! MARKET!



FREE Tai-Chi and Yoga Classes
with Guru Dada

Wednesdays and Fridays
7:30-9:30am
Starting April 13 to July 1, 2005
Fountain Area, Central Plaza

Sign up now at the Customer Service Booth for Market! Market!'s FREE TAI-YO Program

(Bring your own mats & towels)

Customer Service text hotline. 0917 6095900
Customer Service text hotline. Glorietta - 752 7272; from 10am to 8pm
Greenbelt - 752 4853, from 11am to 12mn

Alabang Town Center - 842 2782, from 10am to 8pm
Ayala Center Cebu - (032) 231 5342 loc 324

Reserve your seats by texting SURESEATS GB3 or SURESEATS GB4 to 2333(Globe) or 211 (Smart) or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservations.

April shower of film treats on Hallmark

VOIGHT (LEFT). Plays a war veteran in "Mitch Albom's The Five People You Meet in Heaven."

MONTAGE

ON the Hallmark Channel this month, the film treat on April 3 is "Wedding Daze," starring John Larroquette and Karen Valentine as empty nesters who think that they can relax now that their three daughters are grown up. Alas, all three daughters decide to get married, so their parents can't savor the peace and quiet they've long looked forward to enjoying!

On April 8, "Mike Basset: England Manager" follows the misadventures of Basset (Ricky Tomlinson) and the England Football Team as they slip and stumble their way to the World Cup.

On April 10, "Bug" tells a six-degrees-of-separation story in which all actions have dire consequences. Everything starts with the death of a bug, which terrifyingly unleashes a wild chain of alarming events.

"SNOW WHITE." Popular children's tale goes interactive.

On April 17, "Mitch Albom's The Five People You Meet in Heaven" begins where most stories end: A sad, old war veteran (Jon Voight) saves a little girl's life, and awakens in an unfamiliar place called Heaven—where five people have been waiting to meet him.

The film treat on April 24 is "The Colt," about a soldier who refuses to obey an order to shoot a foal, whom he regards as a reminder of the beauty of life in the midst of war.

'Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs'

Dreamscape at Robinsons Galleria-Ortigas presents Kids Acts Philippines' "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs," an interactive musical for children, at 4 p.m. on April 2, 9, 16, 17, 23, 24 and on May 1.

The production encourages love for reading and learning among children, and imparts values like love, humility, sharing and kindness. Call 683-6100, locals 193,692 and 693.

Advanced photography workshop

Mandy Navasero will hold a Weekend Advanced Photography Workshop for seven weeks starting April 9. Classes will be held every Saturday until May 21, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Topics to be taken up are Portraiture, Fashion with models, Glamour or Cover Photos, Product Photography, Architectural, Travel and Food Photography.

A day of lecture and demonstration will be given in order for participants to have a complete knowledge of each topic. There will also be a lecture on tools and techniques, such as shooting with an analog (35mm or 120) or digital camera.

Travel Photography will include a photo safari in Coron (Palawan) from May 12 to 16.

Navasero is a graduate of Brooks Institute of Photography in Santa Barbara, California, where she completed her BA in Professional Photography major in Illustration and Advertising. Her studio is located at Rm. 227, LRI Business Plaza, 210 Nicanor Garcia st., (formerly Reposo) Bgy. Bel Air II, Makati City. Call 899-1767 or 896-3208 or email mandynavasero@photopro.com.ph.

NAVASERO. Weekend lectures until May 21.

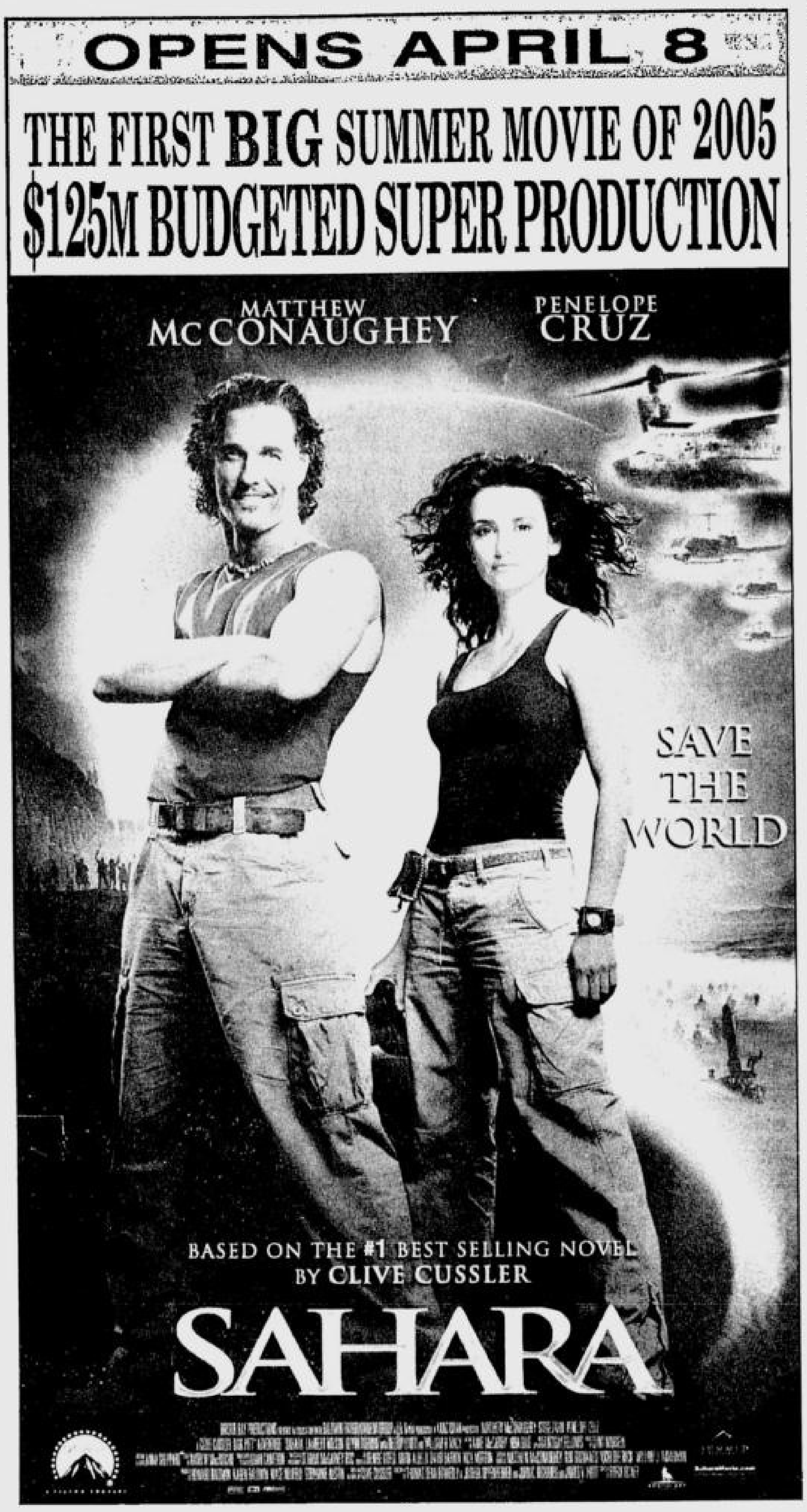
Art for kids

Art workshops will be held by Brittany Corporation at Portafino in Alabang on April 3 and 10. The workshop for kids aged 3-6 is from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, while the session for kids aged 7-12 is from 2 to 4 p.m. Call 850-6986.

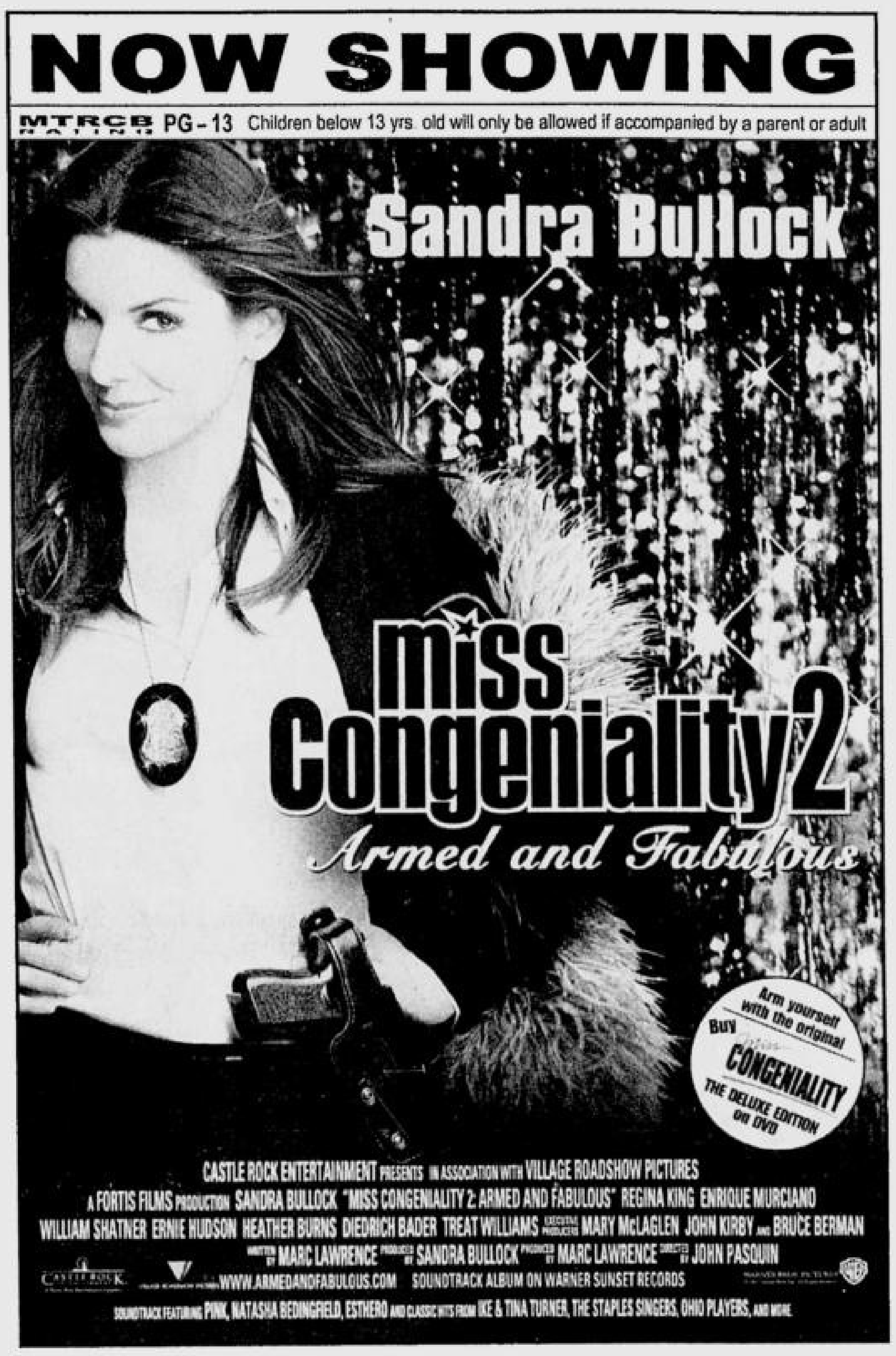
Movies on TV

On HBO, April 2 at 7:15 p.m., "Virtuosity." April 3 at 1:25 p.m., "City by the Sea." April 4 at 5:50 p.m., "She's Having a Baby." April 5 at 6 a.m., "Laughter on the 23rd Floor." 2:30 p.m., "Punch-Drunk Love." April 6 at 4:15 p.m., "Only You."

On Cinemax, April 2 at 11:05 p.m., "Clear and Present Danger." 3:15 a.m., "The 7th Voyage of Sinbad." April 3 at 2:15 p.m., "Field of Dreams." April 4 at 10:35 p.m., "Panic Room." April 5 at 3:45 p.m., "The Hunt for the Red October." April 6 at 7:15 p.m., "Music from Another Room."



OPENS APRIL 8
THE FIRST BIG SUMMER MOVIE OF 2005
$125M BUDGETED SUPER PRODUCTION
MATTHEW McCONAUGHEY
PENELOPE CRUZ
SAVE THE WORLD
BASED ON THE #1 BEST SELLING NOVEL BY CLIVE CUSSLER
SAHARA



NOW SHOWING
MTRCB RATING PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
Sandra Bullock
Miss Congeniality 2
Armed and Fabulous
Arm yourself with the original
Buy Miss Congeniality The Deluxe Edition on DVD
CASTLE ROCK ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH VILLAGE ROADSHOW PICTURES
A FORTIS FILMS PRODUCTION SANDRA BULLOCK "MISS CONGENIALITY 2: ARMED AND FABULOUS" REGINA KING ENRIQUE MURCIANO
WILLIAM SHATNER ERNIE HUDSON HEATHER BURNS DIEDRICH BADER TREAT WILLIAMS EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS MARY McLAGLEN JOHN KIRBY AND BRUCE BERMAN
WRITTEN BY MARC LAWRENCE PRODUCED BY SANDRA BULLOCK PRODUCED BY MARC LAWRENCE DIRECTED BY JOHN PASQUIN
WWW.ARMEDANDFABULOUS.COM SOUNDTRACK ALBUM ON WARNER SUNSET RECORDS
SOUNDTRACK FEATURING PINK, NATASHA BEDINGFIELD, ESTHERO AND CLASSIC HITS FROM IKE & TINA TURNER, THE STAPLES SINGERS, OHIO PLAYERS, AND MORE

NOW SHOWING
MTRCB RATING G ALL AGES ARE ADMITTED
Walt Disney Pictures presents
vin DIESEL is the PACIFIER
WELCOME TO THE INFANTRY.
© DISNEY ENTERPRISES, INC
Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures

MTRCB RATING PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will be allowed in accompanied by a parent or adult.
JOHN TRAVOLTA UMA THURMAN
Be Cool
EVERYONE IS LOOKING FOR THE NEXT BIG HIT
VINCE VAUGHN CEDRIC THE ENTERTAINER
ANDRE BENJAMIN STEVEN TYLER CHRISTINA MILIAN
and starring HARVEY KEITEL with THE ROCK
and DANNY DeVITO
NOW SHOWING

Who's to blame for those 'naughty' songs?

By Nestor U. Torre

HYPROCRISY has reared its pointy head once again in show biz due to the current controversy regarding the "naughty" songs that are being played on the radio and performed on television.

The makers and performers of those songs are being accused of polluting the airwaves and giving young people the wrong notions about what constitutes good entertainment in the broadcast media.

Pushed back against the wall by the accusations, the naughty songs' lyricists and composers swear on a stack of Bibles that they wrote those offensive songs for children.

As for the sexy "singers" and dancers who usually interpret those numbers, they cheekily say that the problem is not with them, but with overly conservative listeners and viewers who have "dirty" minds.

Fire and sizzle

What's really going on here? Are we just over-reacting, as charged, or does the polluting smoke we see indicate that there's really sexy fire and sizzle happening, from which vulnerable children should be spared?

The answer lies in the lyrics of the "innocent songs for children" being criticized: Some of them are obviously hinting at qualities, feelings and activities that are for adults, and not for kids. Since daytime radio and TV is supposed to be for General Patronage, those allegedly innocent but really naughty and sometimes even dirty songs should not be played or performed during that long time period.

Performance style

What makes things worse is the "winking" tone and performance style that singers and dancers resort to while doing those controversial numbers. That approach encourages a similarly leering attitude on the part of the young members of the audience, and parents and educators shouldn't condone it. Do we want our children to become as malicious and jaded as some "machotic" and "bimbotic" performers?

The problem becomes even bigger when the songs are performed, as they usually are, by sexy women and men. Their graphic gyrations add to the grossness of numbers being criticized, and all declarations of innocent intent are debunked.

Leering sexiness

Worst of all, those "naughty" songs are now being performed by young singers and dancers, on TV shows for adolescent and teen viewers. This further complicates the situation by enticing young viewers to enjoy and even perform the songs themselves at home, thus making leering sexiness the ordinary, everyday thing it shouldn't be, especially when young people are involved.

Clear idea

Since most minors may not fully understand what's going on, it's up to parents and educators to defend them from the values-eroding effect of "naughty" novelty songs. Adults should first buy the offending discs and tapes, and listen to them so they have a clear idea of how big the problem is. And they should watch TV to see those sexy songs being made even more offensive by their interpreters.

If they agree that the situation is inimical to the welfare of young people, they should protest—loud and clear. The bottom line is, "naughty" songs on daytime radio and TV have got to go.

Roy Iglesias pays it forward

By Rica Arevalo

IGLESIAS. Creativity spells the difference.

ROY C. Iglesias, an alumnus and faculty member of the Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila (PLM) launched a lecture series on "How to Get Your Screenplays Produced" at the Intramuros-based university last March 28 and 29.

When Roy was a scholar in the late 1970s, he recalls, "We didn't have the facility—everything was imagined! We had a shoebox for a camera." He reminds students that creativity will spell the difference if one wants to succeed.

He says, "My professor inspired me to persevere because she was selfless. She showed us the films of Federico Fellini, Norman McLaren, etc. We would never have seen those films had it not been for her. She had to borrow the reels from embassies. Now, I'm paying it forward. I enjoy sharing my knowledge with students."

Roy remembers, "PLM in its early years offered short courses on film. They were handled by Ishmael Bernal; even Lamberto Avellana taught here."

First teaching job

Screenwriter Doy del Mundo got his first teaching job at PLM before he founded the Communication Department of De La Salle University.

For his lecture series, the award-winning screenwriter invited colleagues from the film industry, like actors Gina Alajar and Ricky Davao, director Joel Lamangan and producer Robbie Tan, to share their experiences with the scholars of PLM.

Ricky said he wanted to be an actor because he got "high" when fans screamed his name in public. His goal then was to get as many projects as he could. But now, he prioritizes "quality" above all things. He makes it a point to be familiar with the writer and director of a project before he signs up.

"When I did 'Selya,' the challenge for me, being straight, was how to give justice to a gay role. Other actors have essayed similar roles like Eddie Garcia in 'Tubog sa Ginto.' To be an artist, you have to love what you're doing, if you want to be in the business for the long haul," Ricky shared.

Gina lamented, "As actors grow older, *halos lahat ng* roles, *nagampanan na namin. Lahat ng* scripts *na dumadaan sa amin, pare-pareho na lang ang* characters. I used to say *na sana mabigyan ako ng naibang* role, *kasi yung umiiyak at maging mahirap, kayang-kaya ko nang gawin kahit nakapikit ang aking mga mata.*"

Tan, producer of Jeffrey Jeturian's upcoming film, "Bikini Open," said he looks at the marketability of the project. "Casting is important. There are many gifted scriptwriters *na mahusay gumawa ng* casting combinations. If you give your script to a film company, make sure you know what they can do.

Predicament

"The predicament now is, if you produce good films, people don't watch them—like 'Babae sa Breakwater.' *Maliit din ang* market *ng* good movies like 'Munting Tinig.' They may be good, but they're also hard to sell. *Kaya minsan, natutuliro ang* producers *sa klase ng* subject matter *na dapat i*-pursue."

Joel on the other hand looks for the content of the script. "*Ano ang ibig ipahayag ng* writer? *Dapat malinaw ang pilosopiya at may katotohanan ang kwento, kasi magsisilbi itong aral sa ating mga mamamayan,*" he pointed out.

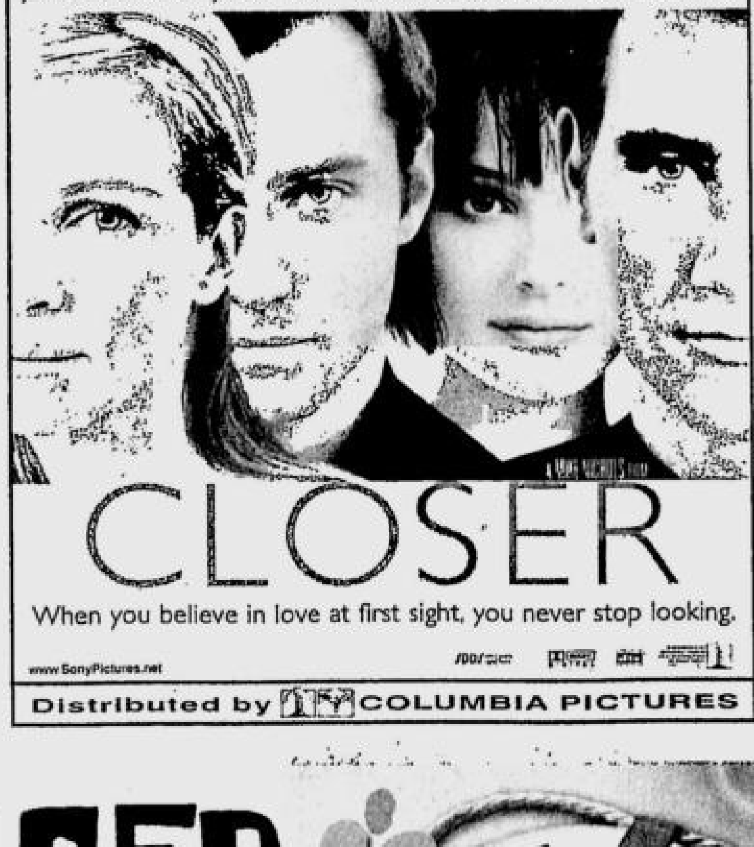
NOW SHOWING
MTRCB Rating ▶ PG 13 "Parents are strongly cautioned in bringing along kids below seven due to some scenes that might stress their sensitivities".
From SAM RAIMI - the director of SPIDERMAN

You thought it was just a story.
#1 movie in America
BOOGEYMAN

MTRCB RATING ▶ R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND ABOVE
NOW SHOWING
CAN MANKIND DEFEAT THE ARMY OF DARKNESS UNLEASHED BY AN ANCIENT EVIL CULT?

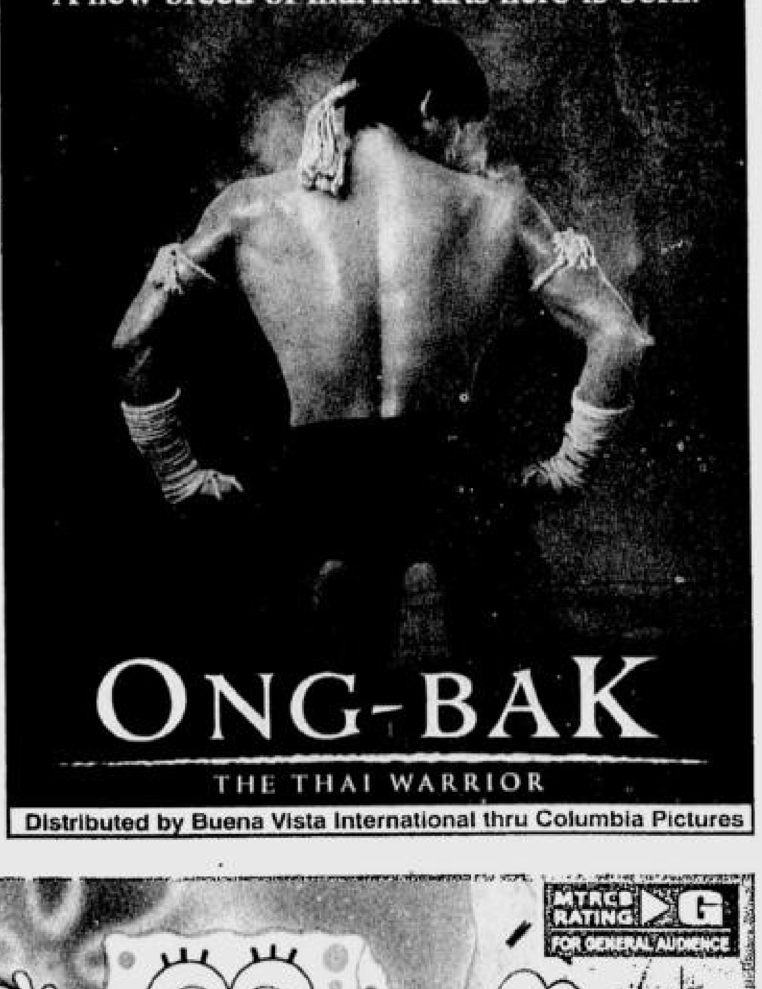
FROM THE COMPANY THAT GAVE YOU "RESIDENT EVIL 1 & 2"
ALONE IN THE DARK
BASED ON THE #1 INTERACTIVE ACTION VIDEOGAME FROM ATARI

Powerhouse Cast In Their Sexiest Roles Ever!
LOVE & BETRAYAL BEGINS APRIL 6
MTRCB RATING ▶ R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS AND UP
5 GOLDEN GLOBE NOMINATIONS INCLUDING BEST PICTURE
JULIA ROBERTS JUDE LAW NATALIE PORTMAN CLIVE OWEN


CLOSER
When you believe in love at first sight, you never stop looking.
www.SonyPictures.net

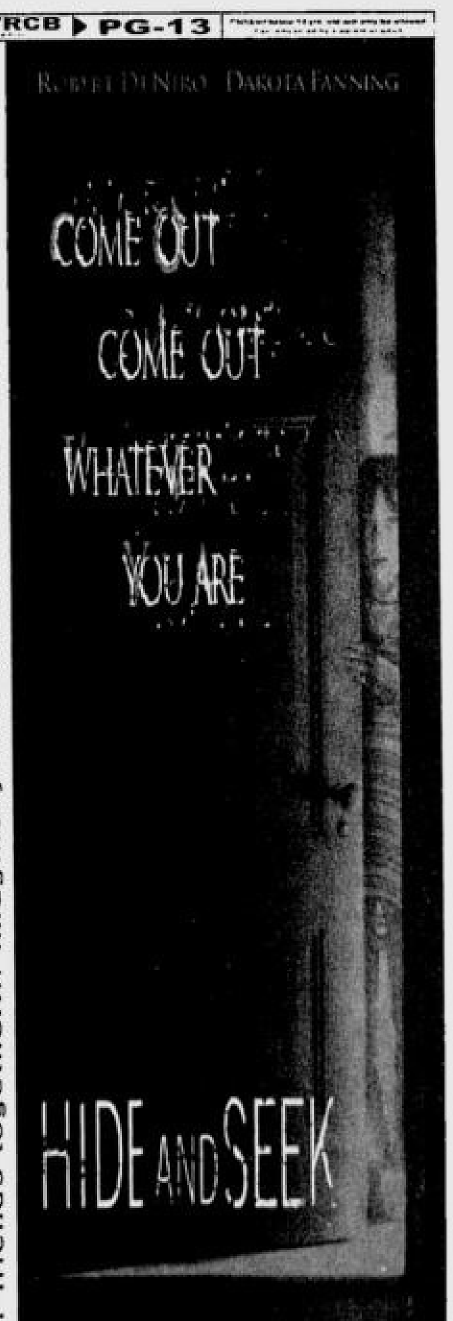
Distributed by COLUMBIA PICTURES

ULTIMATE MARTIAL ARTS ACTION STARTS APRIL 13!
MTRCB RATING ▶ R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS AND UP
A new breed of martial arts hero is born.



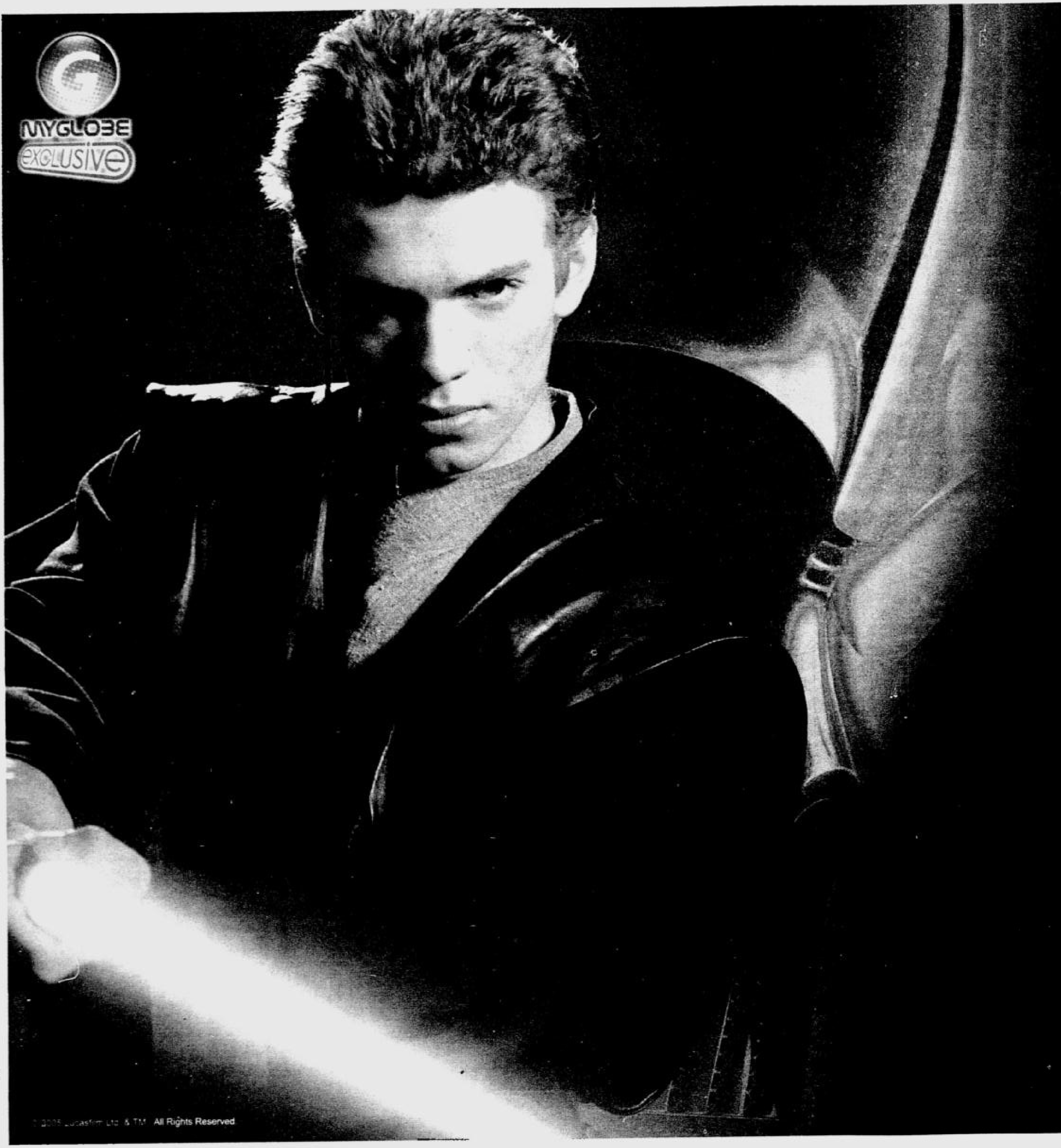
Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures

MTRCB ▶ PG-13
IF YOU THINK YOU CAN FIGURE OUT THE ENDING...THINK AGAIN! Gather your friends together... imaginary and otherwise...and go see this movie!



OPENS APRIL 6

BIGGER
MORE ABSORBENT
ONLY IN THEATRES
APRIL 6
NICKELODEON
THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE
MTRCB RATING G FOR GENERAL AUDIENCE
A united international pictures release through Solar Entertainment Corporation



MYGLOBE exclusive

©2005 Lucasfilm Ltd. & TM. All Rights Reserved

STAR WARS™

BE READY FOR A DISTURBANCE IN THE FORCE ONLY IN MYGLOBE!

Text STARWARS to 2949

Download now and get the chance to win the ₱1 million grand prize or ₱50,000 weekly!

Wallpaper: To download, text <keyword> to 2949. Ex. W128

W113
W114
W115
W116
W125
W126
W127
W128
W129
W130
W131
W132
W133
W134
W135
W136
W137
W138
W139
W140
W141
W142
W145
W146

Rates per download: ₱2.50 for daily trivia and Calendar logo • ₱15.00 for weekly logo • ₱20.00 for weekly, colored and animated wallpaper • ₱30.00 for screen themes

Be ready for the Sith on May 19.

STAR WARS REVENGE OF THE SITH

Text Cards: To download, text <keyword> to 2949. Ex. TC51

TC51
TC52
TC53
TC54
TC55
TC56
TC57
TC58
TC59
TC60
TC61
TC62

Logos: To download, text <keyword> to 2949. Ex. L51

L51
L52
L53
L54
L55
L56
L57
L58
L59
L60
L61
L62
L63
L64
L65

To download Animated Wallpaper & Screen Themes:
Go to the myGlobe WAP site. Under What's Hot, click on Star Wars. Then click on the category of your choice.

Subscription Services:
Text FORCE to 2949 to get weekly wallpaper • Text JEDI to 2949 to get daily trivia
Text YODA to 2949 to get weekly logo • Text SITH to 2949 to get calendar logo

Activate MMS and GPRS on your phone now!
1. For a list of compatible handsets, send NOKIA, ERICSSON or SAMSUNG (depending on your handset model) to 2365. Regular text messaging charges apply.
2. Text GO <handset model> to 2951 to get your phone's settings. Ex. GO N3650. For Nokia 3220, 6220, 6230, 6600, 6820, 6260, 7200 and 7610 text GO <handset model>,,1234 to 2951. Make sure that you type in the two commas before the 1234 PIN.
3. Enter 1234 when asked for PIN to save the settings.
4. Send an MMS message for only ₱5.00 to activate the service.

making great things possible Globe HANDYPHONE

Promo Period [illegible] 2005 Per DTI-NCR Permit No. [illegible]

SATURDAY *Special*

JACKSON. Tough guy with a big heart.

NOW SHOWING

Passion, fun in Jackson and Diesel's popcorn flicks

By Rito P. Asilo

"Coach Carter"

D: Thomas Carter
S: Samuel L. Jackson, Ashanti

HOW does one argue with lessons learned the hard way, and redemption earned through sheer grit? Thomas Carter's big screen adaptation of the grueling but triumphant real-life exploits of high school basketball coach Ken Carter (no relation to the director) may sometimes seem too preachy and protracted, but the results are nevertheless empowering and entertaining.

In 1999, Carter (Samuel L. Jackson) took on the seemingly impossible task of trasforming wayward, hard to discipline athletes and made them champions. He turned his students' love of the game to a state of mind that taught them how to strive hard for better lives. But, changing their mind set wasn't easy: He imposed strict rules of good behavior—on the hardcourt and off.

His unconventional style also involved maintaining high academic standards and a dress code. But, when their grades continued to dip, the stern coach benched the whole team and padlocked the school gym, even if this meant tarnishing the team's zero-loss slate. This set the whole community in a tizzy.

Carter soon realizes that he also has to contend with the poverty-stricken town's ire and acceptance, and work against a flawed system of education that is "designed for students to fail."

The film is full of sports-movie clichés and big speeches, but Jackson's fire and passion give them weight, substance and credibility. You will also see pop princess Ashanti (nope, she doesn't sing here) in her big-screen debut, holding her own in a narrative arc that explores teenage pregnancy and abortion.

More than the big words and crushed dreams, however, it is Carter's big heart that permeates this man-against-himself cautionary tale. And he indelibly makes his point when he demonstrates to his students that winning doesn't end when the victorious, three-point last shot is made—and that bigger battles await them outside the hardcourt.

"Boogeyman"

D: Stephen T. Kay
S: Barry Watson, Lucy Lawless

Young Tim (Jonah Christopher Duff) cringes under the sheets as he tries to get some sleep, but a threatening presence in the cupboard frightens him. To his relief, his dad comes to the rescue—but, he gets sucked into the cupboard and vanishes for good!

Fifteen years later, the disappearance remains unexplained. Newspaper editor Tim's (Barry Watson of "Seventh Heaven") morbid fear of closets and dark rooms is again put to the test when his mother (Lucy Lawless of "Xena") dies. He decides to confront his fears by visiting the now-deserted family house to prove that there's no boogeyman. But, if there really isn't, we wouldn't have a movie, would we?

Stephen T. Kay ("Get Carter") creates claustrophobic atmosphere with his engaging use of lights, but the narrative is unfocused and confusing. The prosaic opening scene—involving a child haunted by traumatic memories—has been used to greater effect in Jonathan Liebesman's "Darkness Falls" and Robert Harmon's "They."

But, there is still that familiar fascination with our childhood fears that draws us to films like this—which explains why movies like "Boogeyman" and the "Jeepers Creepers" franchise rake it in at the box office. —Even with an absurd final twist that stretches logic and credulity.

"The Pacifier"

D: Adam Shankman
S: Vin Diesel

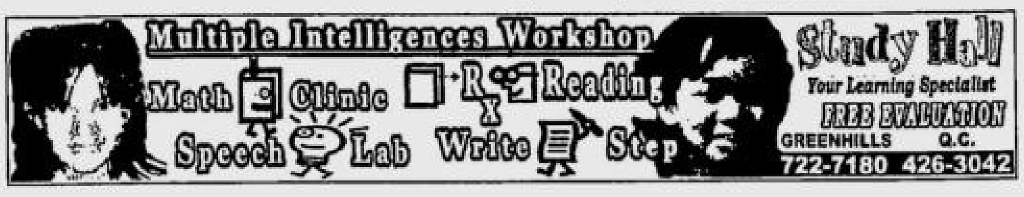
After a botched operation that takes the life of an important scientist, undercover agent Shane Wolfe (Vin Diesel) protects the fallen man's children against baddies who are out to get them. He soon realizes that child care is tougher to handle than matters of national security!

Initially, you'll wince at how silly its plot is, but then again, the film doesn't pretend to be another "Terminal." If you leave your cerebral musings and some lobes of your brain in the car, you'll have a good laugh at some of the film's inanities.

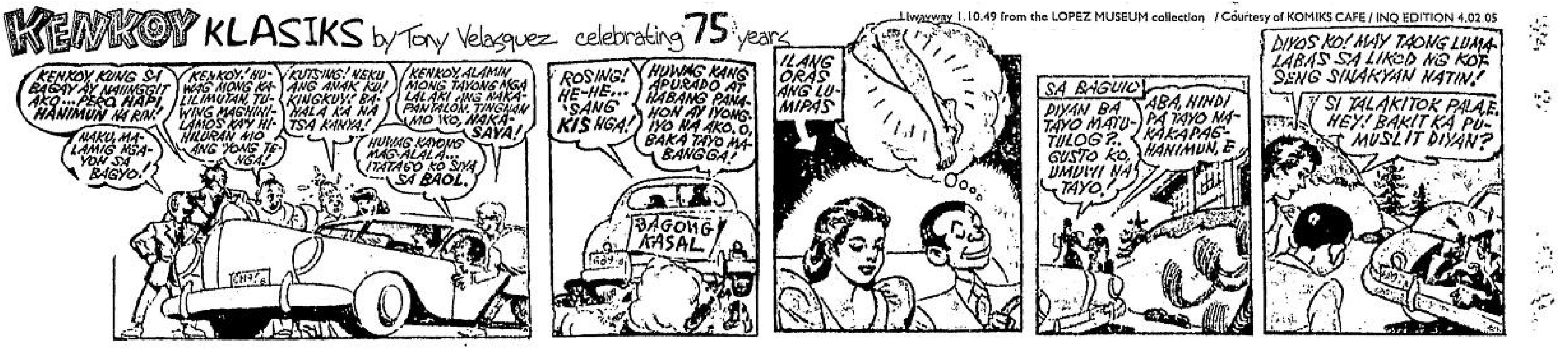
And Diesel convincingly whoops it up in this muscleman-in-a-kid's-world format—he even shows a bit of sensitivity in some scenes, which is no mean feat for Mr. Pitch Black.

Of course, you know you are watching a no-brainer when you see Diesel looking flushed and embarrassed when one of his young wards asks him if she'd have big breasts when she grows older—like he does! —Or when, in a momnet of panic, Wolfe swoops a "soiled" baby inside a toilet bowl to clean him up. You wouldn't do that to an infant, would you?

DIESEL. Displays comic chops and sensitivity in new action comedy.


Multiple Intelligences Workshop
Math Clinic
Rx Reading
Speech Lab
Write Step
Study Hall
Your Learning Specialist
FREE EVALUATION
GREENHILLS Q.C.
722-7180 426-3042

SM Appliance Center
citibank
0% appliance installment fiesta
wider appliance selection
on 3, 6* or 12* month installment plan for a minimum purchase of P3,000
*on selected items
MEGATRADE HALL 1, SM MEGAMALL MARCH 18 - APRIL 10
SMART GOLD
FREE PREMIUM ITEMS EXCLUSIVELY FOR PAYLITE AVAILERS WHO APPLY FOR SMART GOLD SUBSCRIPTIONS.
PayLite
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. A3-192, Series of 2005
SM CITY NORTH EDSA 927-9335 • NORTH EDSA ANNEX 927-6578 • NORTH EDSA BASEMENT 927-2650 • SM MAKATI 816-1178 • HARRISON PLAZA 524-6239 • SM CUBAO 911-1159 • SM MEGAMALL 633-5075 • SM CENTERPOINT 715-0534 • SM CITY SOUTHMALL 800-3512 • SM CITY BACOOR (046)417-0258 • SM CITY FAIRVIEW 417-6795 • SM CITY CEBU (032)231-9132 • SM CITY ILOILO (033)320-6355 • SM CITY MANILA 523-8593 • SM DELGADO (033)337-3102 • SM CITY PAMPANGA (045)961-6991 • ROCKWELL 898-1519 • PODIUM 687-1215 • SUCAT 829-7346 • SM CITY DAVAO (082)297-7064 • SM BICUTAN 777-9295 • SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO (088)859-2501 • SM CITY LUCENA (042)710-5032-34 • SM CITY BAGUIO (074)619-7692-93 • SM CITY MARILAO (044)711-2526 • SM CITY DASMARIÑAS (046)432-3189 • SM CITY BATANGAS (046)886-7735


KENKOY KLASIKS by Tony Velasquez celebrating 75 years
KENKOY, KUNG SA BAGAY AY NAIINGGIT AKO...PERO HAPI HANIMUN NA RIN!
NAKU, MALAMIG NGAYON SA BAGYO!
KENKOY! HUWAG MONG KALILIMUTAN, TUWING MAGHIHILAMOS KAY HIHILURAN MO ANG 'YONG TENGA!
KUTSING! NEKU ANG ANAK KU! KINGKUY! BAHALA KA NA TSA KANYA!
KENKOY, ALAMIN MONG TAYONG MGA LALAKI ANG NAKAPANTALON. TINGNAN MO KO, NAKASAYA!
HUWAG KAYONG MAG-ALALA... ITATAGO KO SIYA SA BAOL.
ROSING! HE-HE... 'SANG KIS NGA!
HUWAG KANG APURADO AT HABANG PANAHON AY IYONG-IYO NA AKO. O, BAKA TAYO MABANGGA!
BAGONG KASAL
ILANG ORAS ANG LUMIPAS
SA BAGUIO
DIYAN BA TAYO MATUTULOG?.. GUSTO KO, UMUWI NA TAYO!
ABA, HINDI PA TAYO NAKAKAPAG-HANIMUN, E
DIYOS KO! MAY TAONG LUMALABAS SA LIKOD NG KOTSENG SINAKYAN NATIN!
SI TALAKITOK PALA E. HEY! BAKIT KA PUMUSLIT DIYAN?

Liwayway 1.10.49 from the LOPEZ MUSEUM collection / Courtesy of KOMIKS CAFE / INQ EDITION 4.02.05

Unitel to distribute Pinoy classics abroad

By Ronald G. Mangubat

AS a film enthusiast, one of my ultimate dreams is to have my own library of Filipino movie classics. I started my collection a few years ago, but I got frustrated at the limited titles I found in video shops.

Irony

The irony is, a simple trip to the mall will lead me to a DVD copy of foreign classics like Kurosawa's "Kagemusha" or Orson Welles' "Citizen Kane," but it will probably be impossible to find a copy of Marilou Diaz-Abaya's "Brutal" or Eddie Romero's "Aguila" in video stores anywhere in the country.

It's sad to realize that film restoration and archiving has been neglected here.

GLORIA. Restoring Filipino films for movie lovers overseas.

But, my hope came alive again recently when I attended an informal meeting conducted by Unitel's Tony Gloria at MyCinema in Greenbelt. In light of the emerging digital film wave, Gloria demonstrated to a group of some 100 film lovers what digital films would look like when they're projected on a big screen, and how they achieve various effects during post-production.

During his talk, Gloria announced that Unitel is currently in the process of restoring and converting Pinoy film classics to the DVD format. The project, he said, is intended for Filipinos living abroad.

Unitel has started to restore Lino Brocka's "Kain at Abel," Marilou Diaz-Abaya's "Karnal," Mike de Leon's "Sister Stella L" and even old Sampaguita classics like "Jack and Jill," starring Dolphy and Lolita Rodriguez.

Theatrical run

"It's something that has been on my mind for more than two years," Gloria quipped. "It all started during the theatrical run of 'American Adobo' in the US. We figured that after rave reviews, our film would have more value if we converted it to DVD. My feeling was, if you enjoy a successful theater run, you can also be successful in the video market," he reasoned.

The project grew in Gloria's mind. "I've had meetings with Mother Lily, and she agreed to have some of her best films remastered, restored, subtitled and converted to DVD. We got the same kind of reaction from the Vera Perezes who own Sampaguita Pictures. We're re-mastering and restoring around 20 of their best movies, and we're even thinking of subtitling them in French."

Starting next month, those Pinoy classics will be available via the internet.

"We'll be announcing it on www.cinefilipino.com," Gloria pledged.

Two classy and sassy ladies of the silver screen

By Behn Cervantes

I WAS a young fan of the eminent pre-war star Irene Dunne because she reminded me of my mother. She was a classically beautiful woman, but she could deliver earthy and dramatic performances with equal grace and ease.

I was also enchanted by her performance in "Anna and the King of Siam," where she co-starred with Rex Harrison.

She won respect in Hollywood because she had never been divorced, was not tainted by scandal, and led what was considered an exemplary Catholic life. She was referred to as "one of the greatest actresses of Hollywood" by no less than Loretta Young.

For a while, she held the record of best actress nominations (five of them) at the Academy Awards, but never won an award.

Opera singer

I was surprised to learn that this lovely lady also starred as Magnolia in the great Jerome Kern musical, "Showboat." Indeed, she could sing the Jerome Kern classics because she was an aspiring opera singer.

DUNNE AND KERR. Great actresses, graceful women.

On television, I was entranced by her performance in "Love Affair" opposite Charles Boyer, the epitome of the French lover. Its remake was the '50s romantic hit "An Affair to Remember."

Having seen Kerr's demure characterization in "An Affair to Remember," I was pleasantly surprised by Dunne's feisty characterization of the same lady as a New Yorker, wonderfully at romantic odds with the suave Boyer.

It dawned on me that Dunne and Deborah Kerr had great similarities. In fact, they ended up playing the

TWO/ A3-3

Robert and Isay in intimate concert

By Nestor U. Torre

WE'RE up to our ears in work these days, but we're making it a point to catch "Love You, Hate You, Love You," Robert Seña and Isay Alvarez's unique musical show at Merk's, Greenbelt 3, on April 7, 14, 21 and 28.

We're boosting Robert and Isay's show because they always strive to do something new and better whenever they perform, so their audience is assured of a good, enriching time. Since we're big on entertainers never taking their audience for granted, the Señas rank high on our list in this regard.

SENA AND ALVAREZ. Never take their audience for granted.

Perfect performers

Robert and Isay are the perfect performers for a show like "Love You, Hate You, Love You," because they know whereof they sing. When they first met as performers in Gines Tan's hit musical, "Magsimula Ka," they were co-workers and theater colleagues, period.

But, they liked what they saw in each other, both on the professional and personal levels, so by the time they performed together in "Miss Saigon" in London, they became good friends. In fact, there was a time when they realized that they were best friends.

They cried on each other's shoulder when their respective love lives turned problematical, and they also exulted in one another's joys. The fact that they were of the opposite sex only made them better counselors when it came to their separate problems of the heart.

But, love does work in dizzyingly mysterious ways, so there came a time when the best friends found themselves caring for each other on a level that went beyond platonic affection. In time, romantic love moved even higher, to permanent commitment, and Robert and Isay tied the knot.

Then, it was back to performing in Europe in "Miss Saigon" and other shows. They were doing very well indeed—in fact, Robert was a hit not just as The Engineer in "Miss Saigon," but also as Judas in "Jesus Christ, Superstar."

Despite their success abroad, however, the Señas felt that their children needed a more nurturing life in the Philippines. But, they were insecure about their career prospects here—until we told them that there *was* an audience here for quality entertainment, and advised them to give it a try for a couple of years.

Gamble

Well, those two years ended a long time ago, and the Señas and their kids are still here, doing a lot of shows, theater musicals, recordings, etc. Their "gamble" has paid off beautifully, and we couldn't be happier for them.

Another talented singer, Reuben Laurente of The Company, will be performing in the Señas' show. Beneficiaries are the All for Jesus Foundation (April 7 and 28), St. Joseph Parish in Cabalantian, Bacolor, Pampanga (April 14), and San Lorenzo Charity Inc. (April 21). Call 757-4750 or 0917 824-1465.

Ella May Saison juggles local and international careers

By Jocelyn Valle

ELLA May Saison, the original voice behind Kyla's current hit, "If the Feeling is Gone," also rides the revival wave in her new album, "Soulful," which was released last month.

"It was Star Records' idea, and I got excited because I've never done revivals," explains the singer, whose other hits include the *karaoke* favorite, "Till My Heartaches End." "Now, I have my version of Sharon Cuneta's 'Now That You're Gone' and Zsa Zsa Padilla's 'Maybe This Time.'"

Original

There are eight original compositions in her CD, including two by her favorite songwriters, Odette Quesada and Jimmy Borja, who are now based in the US. She hung out with them when she lived in California for four years. She returned to the country only three months ago.

SAISON. Her album, "So In Love," spawned two Billboard Top 100 chartbusters.

While in the States, Ella May recorded an album, "Saison: So In Love." It spawned two Billboard Top 100 chartbusters ("So In Love" and "Never Had a Chance") and contained a theme song for a soap opera aired in Los Angeles.

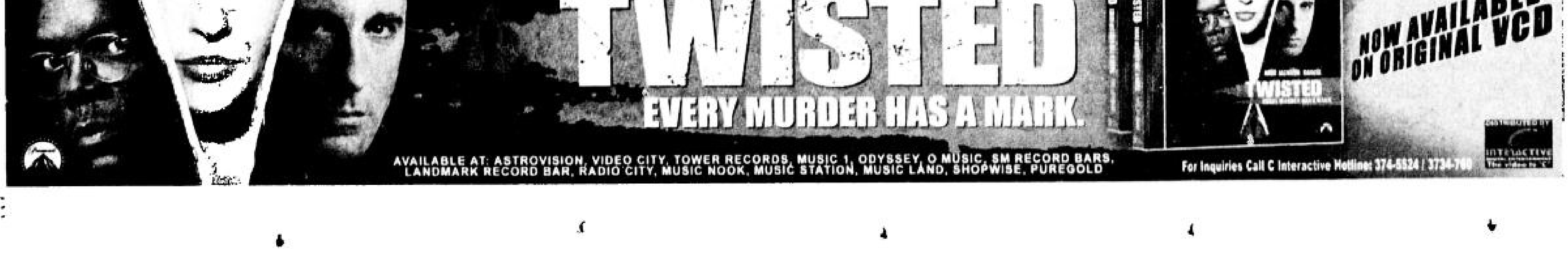
She did a duet with CeCe Peniston on a tune written by the '80s dance diva ("We Got a Love Thang") herself. "CeCe is so nice," Ella May says. "And so is her mom! I'm close to both of them. She's looking forward to performing in Manila."

Musical reach

Ella May expanded her musical reach by performing in different states and front-acting for an LA-based band. She worked as part of the staff of a Banana Republic

ELLA/ A3-3

SARABIA OPTICAL
Summer Get-Away Promo
Five lucky Sarabia Optical customers will win a trip for two to Boracay Island for three days & two nights
TRIP TO BORACAY FOR TWO
You are entitled to one (1) raffle coupon for a minimum of Php1,500.00 single receipt purchase of any participating product.
See flyers for complete details
Levi's LACOSTE ESSILOR Transitions VARILUX ACUVUE Clear ACUVUE 2 RECO Amadeus DOLCE & GABBANA
The promo will run from April 1 to May 31, 2005
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0668 Series of 2005


ASHLEY JUDD SAMUEL L. JACKSON & ANDY GARCIA
TWISTED
EVERY MURDER HAS A MARK.
NOW AVAILABLE ON ORIGINAL VCD
AVAILABLE AT: ASTROVISION, VIDEO CITY, TOWER RECORDS, MUSIC 1, ODYSSEY, O MUSIC, SM RECORD BARS, LANDMARK RECORD BAR, RADIO CITY, MUSIC NOOK, MUSIC STATION, MUSIC LAND, SHOPWISE, PUREGOLD
For Inquiries Call C Interactive Hotline: 374-5524 / 3734-760
DISTRIBUTED BY C INTERACTIVE

Repertory Philippines 'localizes' latest play

By Nestor U. Torre

RAY Cooney's Olivier Award-winning comedy, "Whose Wife Is It Anyway?," will be staged by Repertory Philippines at Onstage Greenbelt 1 from April 8 to 24. Rep's 68th season is enlivened by this production in a special way! For the first time, the popular theater company is going into adaptation, with names, lines, and references adjusted to suit local situations.

Change

This is change worth noting because it makes the play more pertinent to the political and social scene here. Thus, the merry romp in and out of hotel rooms should elicit more pointed laughter, as the audience enjoys the play's frenetic tale of a philandering politician who has to contend with multiple nubile bedmates, an irate wife, pesky interlopers—and a dead body that just won't stay in one place!

If this incipient "localizing" trend continues, the time may not be far off when Rep will finally stage a local play in English—with, we trust, wonderful results.

The cast of characters in "Whose Wife Is It Anyway?" includes a suave but excessively amorous congressman, a strict hotel manager, a nimble and wily old waiter, a plump Italian maid, an attractive but ditzy young woman, an upright man of nervous disposition, an angry young man, a sophisticated woman in her 40s, an attractive but bossy woman—and that body that refuses to stay dead.

That crazy cast of characters is put through its hectic paces by director Baby Barredo in a style reminiscent of the giddy speed, twists, near-misses and surprises in French fraces. But, the characters here were British, and are now Filipino, which just goes to show that frenetic amorous romps and escapades have become giddily global! Call 887-0710.

Courtship and marriage

Other Rep offerings this year are: Sept. 2 to 25, "The Taming of the Shrew." In William Shakespeare's most popular comedy, hot-tempered Katherine and cool Petruccio play man's most challenging and fulfilling contact sport—courtship and marriage. Petruccio's crazy feints to domesticate wild "Kate" have kept the laughs, romance and wisdom going nonstop for centuries.

Aug. 6 to Dec. 16, "The Emperor's New Clothes." Rep's successful children's theater wing mounts the musical version of the popular tale by Hans Christian Andersen, with book and lyrics by Jim Eller, and music by Eller and Jeanne Bargy.

Famous musical

Rep's calendar peaks with the musical, "Man of La Mancha," from Nov. 11 to Dec. 16. The famous musical is written by Dale Wasserman, with music by Mitch Leigh and lyrics by Joe Darion, and its story is set in 15th Century Spain.

An old man has gone mad with an "impossible dream" of long gone chivalry, and ridiculously roams the countryside in rusty armor as the gallant Knight, Don Quixote. His Quest: to fight evil and to restore virtue and the moral health of the land. Insanity and reality meet for unforgettable fun, and the musical's great songs inspire us to keep on dreaming.

WHOSE
WIFE
IS IT
ANY
WAY

RAY Cooney's Olivier Award-winning comedy has been adapted to suit situations here.

How to get whiter teeth

STREET SMART

Mandy Navasero

DR. MITSY Navales-Antolin, a pediatric dentist, has teamed up with orthodontist Dr. Cristina Gomez-Fores and New York-based Warren Estrada to put up the Smilewite Teeth Whitening Center at Suite 903 Medical Plaza Makati, Amorsolo St. in Makati (call 813-2297 or 751-8101).

Dr. Navales-Antolin said that they want the technology to be affordable. Better-looking teeth boost confidence, self-esteem and dental hygiene. They can change the way people feel about themselves—when you look better, you feel better.

Dr. Fores said this is a painless procedure. Slight sensitivity usually disappears overnight. The process of whitening teeth has no adverse side effects.

Lighter

In this process, the teeth become at least five shades lighter after a single visit, and the result may last for two years.

Teeth discoloration comes from consumption of red wine, chocolate, coffee and soft drinks, prolonged use of tobacco products and certain medications like antibiotics.

Dr. Navales-Antolin first evaluates the patient's teeth and gums to make sure their tissues are sufficiently healthy to undergo the whitening procedure. Teeth are evaluated for cavities, which also have to be fixed before whitening. Patients have the option to change their crowns to a color closer to the lightened shade.

At Smilewite Center, you're dressed to the teeth!

Email mandynavasero@photopro.com.ph

Two . . .

From page A3-2

same roles in both "Love Affair" and "Anna and the King of Siam." Ironically, Dunne, who could sing, did not appear in the musical version, while Kerr's singing was dubbed by Marni Nixon in the Rodgers and Hammerstein adaptation.

Both are classically beautiful ladies, but that didn't mean they were lacking in sex appeal. Dunne acted in comedies where she had perfect chemistry with Cary Grant, no less.

Ungrateful

Deborah also has this wonderful blend of sex, class and breeding, although Dunne is the better actress. Incidentally, Kerr also received five Oscar nominations without bringing home the statuette. Hollywood can be so ungrateful to the deserving!

Both actresses had long and illustrious careers. However, after being typecast for years as a reserved lady, Deborah opted for a change of image and torridly rolled on a Hawaiian beach with macho Burt Lancaster in "From Here To Eternity." But she once again became prissy in "Night of the Iguana."

Dunne is remembered as a Hollywood role model who appeared regularly in Father Peyton's "Rosary Hour" television series, and went on to public service upon retirement. In 1951, Dwight D. Eisenhower appointed her alternate ambassador to the UN, thus paving the way for other Hollywood personalities to enter the world of diplomacy.

Ella . . .

From page A3-2

store, and as an assistant chef in a restaurant inside the West Hollywood campus of UCLA.

Ella May says she can whip up any dish—American, Mexican, Chinese, Spanish and Filipino. She's now savoring the goodies that she missed when she was away, like *tuyo*, green mango with *bagoong*, fried squid and delicacies from her native Bacolod.

We can have Ella May all we want on TV (as a regular on "A.S.A.P."), stage (at the Serendipity Lounge of Discovery Suites), on radio and in CDs—but only for a couple of months. She will go back to the States soon to resume work on her emerging career in the entertainment capital of the world.

Dear Reader, this is your moment. You deserve to be perfect.

Write to the Perfect Moments TV Show and Pond's will give you the chance to be one of the 10 females who will win a make-over, be granted a wish worth up to P100,000, and be featured on national television.

What is a perfect moment?

There are moments in our lives when we would like to look the best we possibly can. It can be any occasion or event - as intimate as a first date, or as grand as a 10th wedding anniversary. As serious as a career-changing presentation at work or as heartwarming as welcoming your husband back from working abroad. Each moment is as unique as the person. Write us about it before June 15, 2005 and we will make that moment perfect for you.

We can't wait to read your letters.

If you are a woman, 15-35 years old, living in the Greater Manila Area. Or a male or female friend or family member who would like us to hear about your female loved one aged 15-35 years old living in GMA, write us about the moment. It should be happening within the duration of April to June 15, 2005.

Don't forget to include these in your letter.

Include this information about you or your loved one.
a. Name b. Address c. Contact Number d. Age e. Signature f. Wallet size or 3R colored picture of female entry g. Wish for the event of the female entry

Also, attach a proof of purchase.*
And write PERFECT MOMENTS and the special event NAME and DATE you or your loved one wants perfect at the back of the envelope.

Where you can send your letters

Send in as many letters as you want to ABS-CBN Mother Ignacia Street, Quezon City or Unilever Philippines, 1351 UN Avenue, Paco, Manila. Or drop them in the dropboxes found in the same addresses.

Or be a Homepartner.

To be a homepartner, send in a letter with your name, address, contact number, signature and proof of purchase*. At the back of the envelope, letter senders should write PERFECT MOMENTS HOMEPARTNER. All women nationwide are eligible to join. You could get P10,000 and Pond's Flawless Rosy White Gifts worth P1,000. So join now!

P.S.

Winners will be notified by ABS-CBN through telephone and registered mail. Homepartners will be announced during the show. Winning home partners must go to ABS-CBN Broadcast Center, Regional TV or Radio Stations within 60 days upon receipt of notification and present a valid ID to be able to claim their prizes.

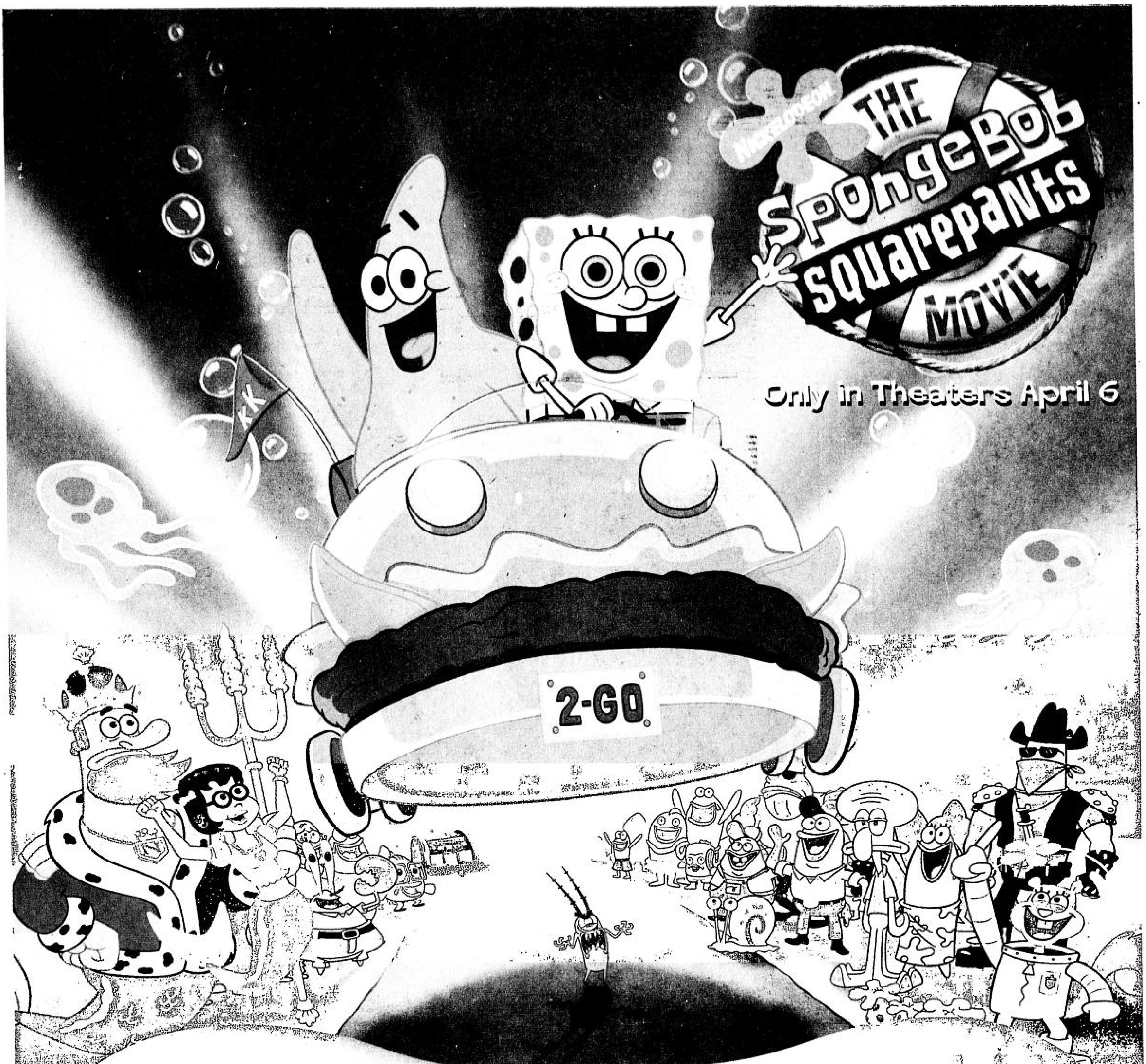
For any questions about how to get your Pond's perfect moment, call the Pond's Institute at 588-7888 in GMA.

* Proof of purchase should be 70% intact with the silver stamped Pond's logo and can be any of the following:
a. 3 sachets of New Pond's Skin Whitening Vitamin Cream 10ml or Fluid 12ml
b. 1 carton of New Pond's Skin Whitening Vitamin Cream 25ml or 50ml
c. 1 carton of New Pond's Skin Whitening Vitamin Fluid 40ml or 70ml
d. 1 carton of New Pond's Skin Whitening Vitamin Pearl Cream 4g
** All employees of ABS-CBN, Unilever Philippines, their agencies and their relatives to the second degree of consanguinity of affinity are disqualified from participating in this promotion.

PERFECT MOMENTS
Sundays • 11:00-11:30am • ABS-CBN

POND'S
WHITE BEAUTY

BFAD no. 0180 series of 2005



SMART kid

The FIRST Celfone for Kids

Prepaid

Join SpongeBob's exciting adventure. Download Caller RingTunes, Message Alert Tones and other exclusive SpongeBob content now!

Text SPONGEBOB to 286

OPERATOR LOGO TEXT LOGO <KEYWORD> TO 286

SBOB6

PATHELLO

SQUIDWARD

SANDY

STANDBACK

GARY

PEEKABOO

SBOBNPAT1

PICTURE MESSAGES TEXT PIC <KEYWORD> TO 286

GOOFYBOB

PATWOW

SWARDSMILE

PLANKTON

SANDY

GARY

SBOBFINE

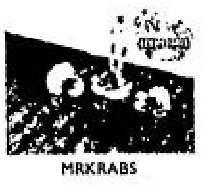
PATMAD

PATRICK2

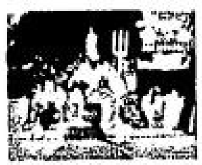
WALLPAPERS TEXT WPAPER <KEYWORD> TO 286

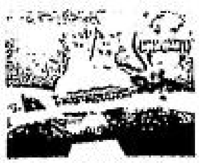
SBOBSMILE

PATSMILE

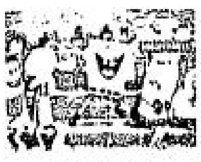

MRKRABS

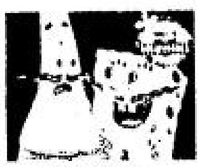
BUBBLEPARTY


NEPTUNE

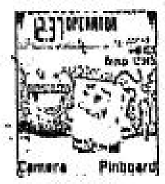

PATTYWAGON3

SBOBBATH


SBOBHAPPY


WEAREMEN

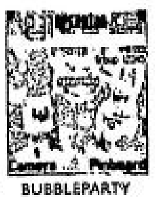
THEMES* TEXT SKIN <KEYWORD> TO 286



SBMOVIE

SPONGESTAR

PATTYWAGON1



BUBBLEPARTY

RINGTONES TEXT MONO/POLY <KEYWORD> TO 286

SpongeBob Theme	SBTHEME	Bikini Bottom	BBOTTOM
The Jellyfish Song	JELLYFISH	Ocean Rock	OCEANRCK
The Best Day Ever	BESTDAY	Just a Kid	JUSTAKID
Now That We Are Men	WERMEN	You Better Swim	SWIM
SpongeBob & Patrick	SBOBNPAT	They'll Soon Discover	DISCOVER
Prince Paul's Bubble Party	BUBBLE	Under My Rock	UNDRMYROCK

CALLER RINGTUNES TEXT RING ADD <RING ID> TO 286

MUSIC		MOVIE LINES	
SpongeBob SquarePants Theme	102323	"Hurray for SpongeBob"	102334
The Best Day Ever	102324	"I Will Rule the World"	102335
SpongeBob and Patrick	102321	"Ohh Its Evil"	102339
Bikini Bottom	102315	"Get Up!"	102333
You Better Swim	102329	"I Will Rule The World"	102335
The Jelly Fish Song	102326	"Burp"	102332
The Goofy Goober Song	102325	"Krustykrab2 Opening"	102338
They'll Soon Discover	102327	"It Was You"	102337
Goofy Gooby Rock	102316	"Pull Up Your Pants Patrick"	102341
Under My Rock	102328	"All Hail Plankton"	102331
Prince Paul's Bubble Party	102320	"I Am Really Scared Here"	102336

MESSAGE ALERT TONES** TEXT ALERT <KEYWORD> TO 286

SB Theme 2	SBTHEME2	OK, That's Enough	ENOUGH
Let's Hear It For SpongeBob	HOORAY	Rule The World	RULEDWORLD
The Goofy Goober Song	GOOFYSONG	IT'S EVIL	ITSEVIL
Ah, The Sea	AHTHESEA	SB Theme1	SBTHEME1
Good Luck	GUDLUCK	That's What It's All About	ITSALLABT
I Like Money	ILYKMONEY	C'mon Pal	CMONPAL
Order Up	ORDERUP	Did You See My Underwear	UNDERWEAR
Shell City	SHELLCITY	What Do You Want!	WATUWANT
Woohoo Walter	WOOHOO	Where All The Action Is	ALLDACTION

Join this summer's hottest party,
the Bikini Bottom Blow Out
Meet and greet SpongeBob Squarepants, live!
April 2, 2005, 2-5 pm SM Megamall Open Parking Lot C.

Visit www.spongebobmovie.com

Open to all SMART subscribers.
Logos, Picture Messages, Wallpapers, Ringtones, and Message Alert Tones cost P15.00 each. Phone Themes cost P30.00 each. Text messages cost P2.50 each.

*Phone Themes for Nokia Series 60 phones only.

**Message Alert tones for WAV compatible phones only, including Nokia 3650, 7650, 6600 and Sony Ericsson P800 and P900.

SMART 258

Enjoy SMART 258 when you get Addict Mobile Prepaid or SMART Kid Prepaid as a secondary line on your SMART Multi-Line SIM.

A united international pictures release through Solar Entertainment Corporation

Get your Nick on!

WOLFPAC

Download from 286

Get a chance to win a loaded Mitsubishi Montero Sport or P2M in the Grand Draw! Plus a Magic Sing Microphone daily!

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. [illegible] Series of 2005

I ♥ SMART Simply amazing!

Questions? Comments? Concerns? Call the SMART Hotline at 888 1111, or call *888 (toll free), e-mail us at smartkid@smart.com.ph, or visit the SMART Wireless Center nearest you.

BUSINESS

Text us your feedback: inquirer biz name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph
Website: www.inq7money.net

Editor **Raul O. Marcelo**
Assistant Editor **Corrie S. Narisma**

Banks' bad loans ratio eases to 12.54%

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE BAD loans ratio of Philippine commercial banks eased to 12.54 percent of total loans as of end-January this year from 12.72 percent the previous month as new loans compensated for the minimal decline in non-performing loans.

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas reported yesterday that the sector's NPLs declined by only 0.3 percent during the period while total loan portfolio grew by 1.2 percent, resulting in the slowdown in the NPL ratio, a key indicator of banks' asset quality.

The end-January bad loan ratio was better than the 14.47 percent in the same month a year ago, reflecting banks' efforts to reduce their bad assets whether through the special purpose vehicle (SPV) mode or other schemes.

Net of inter-bank loans, the BSP said the NPL ratio inched up to 14.97 percent from 14.84 percent in end-December but this was still an improvement from the 17.1 percent last year.

Meanwhile, the banking industry's non-performing assets—combining the NPLs with real and other properties owned and acquired or ropoa—dropped to 11.17 percent as of end-January from 11.41 percent the month before and 13.09 percent in the same period last year.

The decline in NPAs was made possible by the 2.1-percent rise in gross assets, which complemented the 0.2-percent reduction in bad assets.

At end-January, the sector's ropoa, mostly collateralized property assets foreclosed by banks when borrowers defaulted on loans, amounted to P210.65 billion.

Restructuring continued to be an option for banks in addressing the bad loans in their portfolio. But as there were more new loans disbursed than old ones that were restructured, the ratio of restructured loans slightly fell to 6.84 percent in end-January from 6.87 percent the previous month.

During the review period, 48.08 percent of restructured loans were considered as bad or non-performing, which means that borrowers still generally find it difficult to cope with the new terms offered by their lenders after they seek out debt concessions.

Meanwhile, the NPL and NPA coverage ratios during the period improved to 60.93 percent and 35.87 percent, respectively, from 60.4 percent and 35.56 percent at end-December.

"These were the results of higher loan-loss reserves and NPA reserves as well as lower NPLs and NPAs," the BSP reported.

At end-January, the sector's loan-loss reserves amounted to P138.04 billion while the NPA reserves stood at P154.13 billion.

BSP Governor Rafael Buenaventura has been urging the banking community to "bite the bullet" soonest and trim its NPL ratio to 7.5 percent by year's end. He warned that banks would face heavier losses if they fail to sell their bad assets before valuation rules are tightened in line with global best practices.

Customs eyes prepayment of import duties

By Michelle V. Remo

THE BUREAU of Customs plans to tighten the rules in the payment of import duties, hoping to plug huge revenue losses arising from the perennial problem of smuggling.

Newly appointed Customs Commissioner Bert Lina said his office was planning to require importers to declare their importations and pay the corresponding duties prior to shipment into the country.

"People are asking me how we can contain smuggling. This is my proposal," Lina said in a press briefing.

The commissioner said the BOC had written the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas to seek its opinion on the plan. Under the proposed tightening, importers would be required to open letters-of-credit with their chosen banks, to where the payment for the coming shipment and the corresponding duties should be remitted.

Banks will then have to inform the BOC of the coming importations.

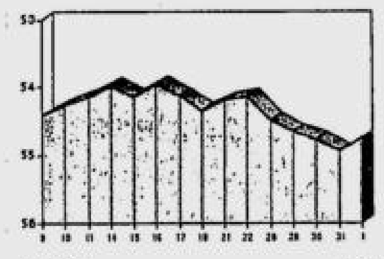
"In our current process, we can only determine that there is an importation if a shipment arrives," he said. It gives very little time for Customs to react (on irregularities)," Lina said.

CUSTOMS/ B2

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES

PESO-DOLLAR RATE



MARCH APRIL

PESO-DOLLAR RATE

₱ 54.76 = $ 1

As of 5 p.m., March 31, 2005

¥ 107.27 = $ 1

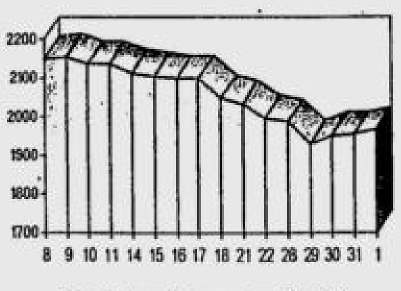
As of 5 p.m., March 31, 2005

GOLD: $428.30-428.80

per ounce Hong Kong, March 31, 2005

STOCK MARKET

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX



(See stock market report on Page B2)

Shares close 0.59% higher

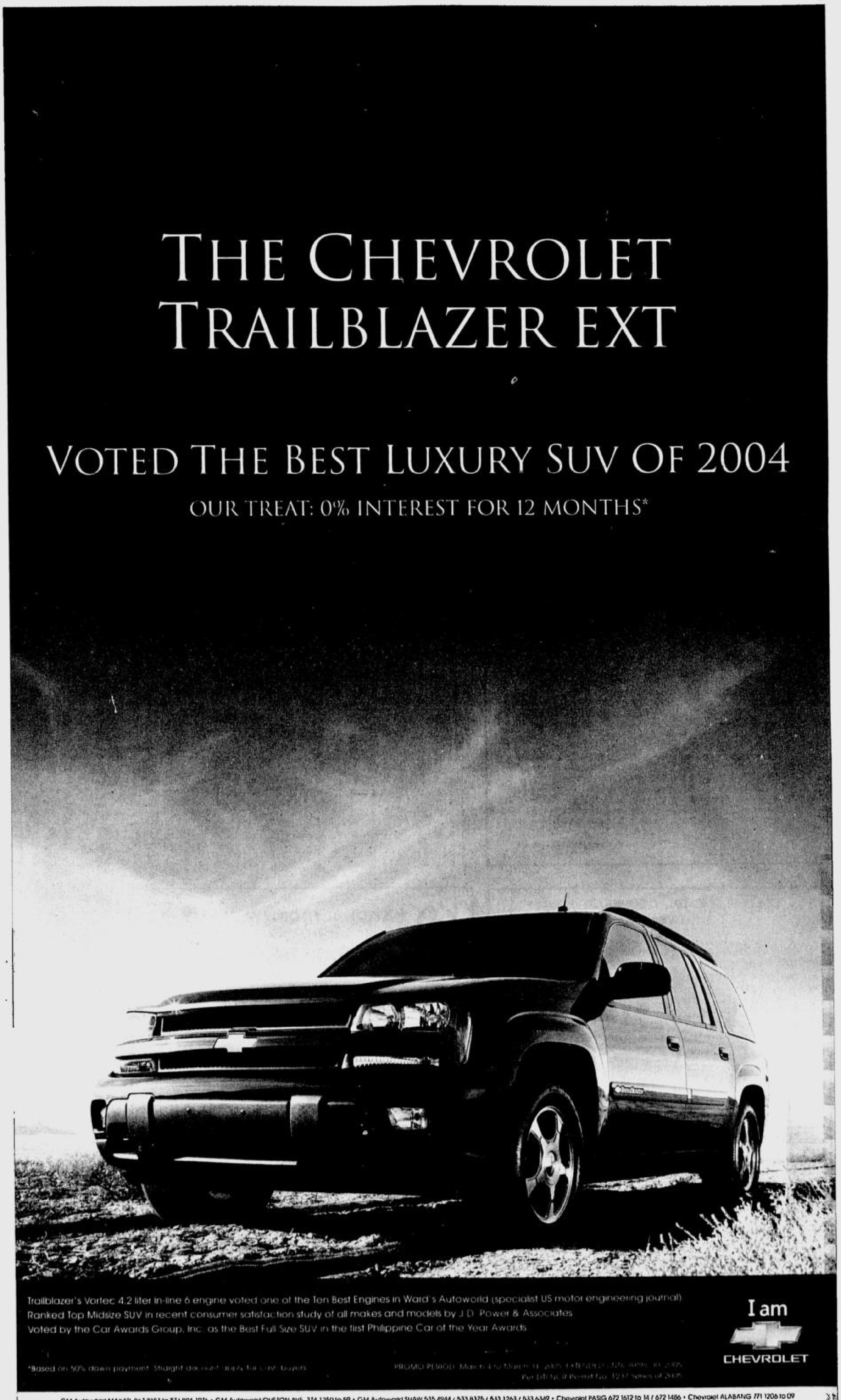
SHARE prices closed 0.59 percent higher yesterday, extending gains on continued bargain-hunting in the blue chips following recent sharp falls, dealers said.

However, the upside is limited by concerns over delay in the passage of a proposed law raising value-added tax (VAT) to 12 percent from 10 percent which the government sees as a crucial revenue measure to help resolve chronic fiscal deficits.

The Philippine Stock Exchange composite index rose 11.6 points to 1,966.29 after trading between 1,950.65 and 1,972.29. Turnover amounted to 1.47 billion shares worth P1.08 billion.

The broader all-shares index rose 10.45 points to 1,197.41.

Gainers beat losers 57 to 23, with 42 stocks unchanged. *AFP*


THE CHEVROLET
TRAILBLAZER EXT

VOTED THE BEST LUXURY SUV OF 2004
OUR TREAT: 0% INTEREST FOR 12 MONTHS*

Trailblazer's Vortec 4.2 liter in-line 6 engine voted one of the Ten Best Engines in Ward's Autoworld (specialist US motor engineering journal)
Ranked Top Midsize SUV in recent consumer satisfaction study of all makes and models by J.D. Power & Associates
Voted by the Car Awards Group, Inc. as the Best Full Size SUV in the first Philippine Car of the Year Awards

*Based on 50% down payment. Straight discount apply for cash buyers

PROMO PERIOD: March 1 to March 31, 2005 EXTENDED [illegible] 30, 2005
Per [illegible] Permit No. [illegible] Series of 2005

I am
CHEVROLET

GM Autoworld MAKATI 867.8183 to 87/ 894.1976 • GM Autoworld QUEZON AVE. 374.1250 to 59 • GM Autoworld SHAW 535.4944 / 533.8375 / 533.1263 / 533.6349 • Chevrolet PASIG 672.1612 to 14 / 672.1486 • Chevrolet ALABANG 771.1206 to 09
Chevrolet NORTH EDSA 374.9992 to 97 / 374.9963 • Chevrolet PAMPANGA (045) 963.3333 / (045) 860.2000 • GM Autoworld CEBU (032) 234.0426 to 29 • Chevrolet DAVAO (082) 300.7777/ (082) 235.3811 • Chevrolet CAGAYAN DE ORO (08822) 722.999 / (088) 857.9999

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

And justice for haul

BREAKTIME

Conrado R. Banal III

OUR STOCK market is showing signs of life, people, and I think I might know a little bit about what an active market could mean to business.

No, it does not mean that business executives will soon start to stay in a million-peso hotel room in Las Vegas, not even worried about what the public may think.

It's just that, for one, companies will likely start to dig up some expansion plans, which they already buried about seven years ago.

That was 1997, the start of the Asian financial crisis. The market has seen better days before the meltdown. That's why no IPOs since then could excite the market.

Thus, without the means to raise equity from the public, a lot of companies shelved their expansion plans. Except of course the Ayala, SM and San Miguel groups.

And so, true to form, the resurgent stock market just had last month its biggest IPO since the financial meltdown, the one of Tatang Henry Sy's SM Investment.

But still, while it may be the biggest IPO for some time, the buyers of the new shares of SM Investment are already losing money. The price dropped since the listing.

I have a little advice to investors. Right away, they must file cases against SM Investment before various government agencies to recover their ... well, loss.

It may only be a paper loss at the moment, but they must threaten SM Investment with being embarrassed in media by filing those cases. You know—you haul it to justice!

Believe me, in this country, such a scheme can actually work.

* * *

JUST a couple of weeks ago, for instance, somebody succeeded in putting one over certain senators.

The Senate was actually doing the hearings upon the prodding of a certain Manuel Baviera, a former executive of the local branch of the London-based Standard Chartered Bank.

Maybe the senators did not know the whole story behind the scheme of Baviera. You see, about two years ago, Baviera threatened to do harm to the bank unless...

Well, at that time, Baviera wanted the bank to give him P2 million in exchange for his "silence" on one of the hundreds of investment products of Standard Chartered.

It seems that, based on reports, Baviera put $8,000 in one of the bank's funds, and when the market turned against him, as he was posting $4,000 in "paper loss," he asked the bank for his money. All of it, meaning, the entire $8,000!

But the thing is, since Baviera himself was a banker then, being the No. 2 man in the bank's human resources unit, he should have known that a sure-fire investment does not exist in this world.

Now, how he got the high executive position in the bank, actually, is a favorite conversation piece among the bank personnel. It is said that he had a close relationship with the head of the department. A woman!

Anyway, that same Standard Chartered fund actually had hundreds of other investors here, and they included Cabinet secretaries and top executives.

None of them threatened the bank when they incurred any paper loss. They must have known what they went into, since they were knowledgeable business executives.

But Baviera would not have any of that paper loss. He demanded from his own employer a little hush sum of only P2 million or else...

* * *

IT MUST be a really damn good business, with your $4,000 paper loss yielding P2 million. Moreover, from out of nowhere, the demand for P2 million later became $2 million.

Take note—in DOLLARS, okay!

The new amount appeared in a letter of the lawyer who was hired by Baviera, none other than the one and only showman, *este*, lawyer Frank Chavez.

The letter actually listed down the government agencies to which Chavez said he would haul Standard Chartered unless...

They were the Bangko Sentral, the Department of Justice, the SEC, the BIR, the National Labor Relations Commission, the Bureau of Immigration and Deportation, and regional trial court.

Last but not least was, of course, the Senate!

In another place and time, such a legal strategy is known as forum shopping.

By the way, almost all of the complaints filed by the Baviera-Chavez tandem were already dismissed, perhaps except two, which are still pending.

But then reports came out that Baviera was insisting that the damaging letter was the work of his lawyer. It's as if he had nothing to do with it.

And all along everybody thought that whatever your lawyer said in anything, you yourself also said. That's why the lawyer is representing you, forgodsakes.

For if his lawyer did something as terrible as that, why did he not fire the lawyer?

* * *

ANYWAY, the bank fired Baviera. It did not want its executives to use their positions in the bank to obtain documents and information to pursue their, er, foul agenda against their very own employer.

It's "loss of trust and confidence," pure and simple.

A couple of days ago, one of the many hearing officers of NLRC hearing officer ruled that such was not a valid reason. Whaaat?

So what should the bank have done? Just lie down and die?

The NLRC hearing officer ruled that the bank could not use loss of confidence against Baviera, because the bank could not penalize him for "spilling the beans."

Baviera claimed in all those cases that Standard Chartered was not authorized to market the fund here. As I said, those cases were already dismissed.

So where did the NLRC hearing officer get the idea that what he called Baviera's "spilling the beans" was actually the truth.

Again, precisely, the cases were already DISMISSED!

To top it all, the ruling said that the bank must pay up. It should give Baviera some P16 million.

Look at that—Baviera incurred $4,000 in paper loss, demanded P2 million as hush payment, raised it to $2 million, and here is the award of P16 million.

I mean, where in thin air did the hearing officer get the figure?

* * *

ALSO just the other day, meanwhile, the country's biggest food business, San Miguel, completed its 10 percent stock rights offering, worth something like P18 billion.

The successful offering did not surprise anybody in the stock market, not even the cockroaches at the PSE, which is not to say the "stockbrokers," because by "cockroaches" I actually mean the insects.

As expected, San Miguel's big-time investors took up the offering, such as Japan's leading brewery Kirin Beer and, of course, SM Investments.

Also exercising their rights were the government agencies PCGG, SSS and GSIS.

Well, they are crazy if they do not take part in the offering. Believe me, the offering is the surest

BREAKTIME/ B3

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
SUGAR REGULATORY ADMINISTRATION
North Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
P.O. Box 70, U.P., Diliman, Quezon City
TIN 000-784-336-000

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA) through its Bidding and Awards Committee (BAC) invites interested parties to apply for eligibility and to bid for the supply of the following items to be delivered to different points in the Philippines:

VARIOUS FARM MACHINERIES, TRUCKS, VEHICLES AND IRRIGATION SYSTEM
(BRAND NEW AND RECONDITIONED)
for Sugar-ACEF Related Projects

Approved Budget for the Contract – Php 6,430,150.00

Schedule of Bidding Activities

Issuance of Eligibility & Bidding Documents	April 13 – May 6, 2005 7:00 A.M – 5:00 P.M. SRA Bidding Secretariat, 3rd Floor Annex Building Sugar Regulatory Administration North Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City for a non-refundable fee of Php 1,000.00
Pre-Bid Conference	April 26, 2005; 9:00 A.M. Social Hall, Sugar Regulatory Administration North Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
Submission & Opening of Eligibility & Bid Envelopes	May 10, 2005 9:00 A.M. Social Hall, Sugar Regulatory Administration North Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City

For particulars, please contact:
The Bidding Secretariat – Telephone No. 929-6837

All particulars relative to the Eligibility, Bid bond, Pre-bid Conference, Bid Evaluation and Award of Contracts shall be governed by the provisions of R.A. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations and other applicable government rules and regulations.

The SRA assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expense incurred in the prerparation of the bids.

The SRA reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect or informality therein or accept any bid(s) or offer(s) which it may consider to be advantageous and beneficial to the government.

(Sgd.) JAMES C. LEDESMA
Administrator

(PDI – April 2 & 9, 2005)

LEYTE III ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
(LEYECO III)
Tunga, Leyte

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Leyte III Electric Cooperative, Inc., invites interested suppliers to apply for eligibility and to bid for the supply and delivery of various Electric Materials for the first and second quarter for year 2005. Said electrical materials are specified hereunder, are to be delivered at LEYECO III plant site.

Bolt, Carriages 3/8 x 4 1/2"=100 pcs; Bolt, Machine 5/8 x 10=200 pcs; 5/8 x 16"=100 pcs & ½ x 6"=10 pcs; Bolt, Oval 5/8 x 10=100 pcs; 5/8 x 16=20 pcs & 5/8 x 18"=23 pcs; Brace Steel 28"=12 pcs & 60"=12pcs, Capacitor, 50 & 75 KVAR-MS Brand, GE=3 units each ; Clamp, Hot Line #1/0=12 pcs; Strain #4=30 pcs ; 3 bolt =100pcs ; Loop Dead End # 2-# 4/0=100 pcs ; Clevis, Secondary Swinging w/o Spool=50pcs; Connector, Compresion # 1/0=30pcs ; Cross-Arm 3 1/2 x 4 1/2 x 8"=6pcs ; 3 3/4 x 4 3/4 x 10"=6pcs & 4" x4"x8", Wood =50 pcs; Guy, Attachment 5/8 x 16"=14pcs. ; Insulator, Pin Type, 53-A=200pcs.; Suspension 6"=100pcs ; Spool 3"=15pcs.; Fuse Link, 100pcs per rating, 10 A; 15 A ; 25 A; 30 A ; 40 A ; 6 A ; 60 A ; 75 A & 8 A ; Meter, KWH, 1-Ph 2w,240V, 10(30)A 1,000pcs ; Nut. Eye=30 pcs ; Pin, Pole Top 200pcs ; Pole, (Wood), 25"=80pcs. ; 30'=65pcs ; 35'=15pcs ; 40"=5pcs ; 45' 6 pcs ; Rod, Armor, Double Support 1/0=6pcs ; Single Support 1/0=36pcs; Strap, Steel (wrap type) 8"Diam.=12pcs ; Screw, Log 1/2 x 4" galv.=200pcs ; Transformer, 15 kVA, CSP 5 units ; 37.5 KVA, Double Bushing=5 units ; & 50 KVA. Double Bushing=3 units ; Wire, Jumper, Aluminum 3-strand=60 meters; Bolt Carriages 1/2 x 4 1/2"=100pcs.; Bolt Double Arming 5/8 x 18"=100 pcs ; Bracket Secondary=50 pcs.

SPECIFIC DATES OF UNDERTAKING

Date of Publication	March 20, 27 & April 02, 2005	
PRE-BID Conference	April 11, 2005 Monday	LEYECO III Conference Room
OPENING OF BIDS QUOTATIONS	April 26, 2005 Tuesday	LEYECO III Conference Room

Mode of Payment

1. Transformer, Capacitor, KWH meters & Poles	Consignment basis 30 days upon withdrawal from warehouse
2. Other Materials	Cash basis

Interested Suppliers to join this bidding are advised to submit accreditation requirements from date of this publication until April 10, 2005 address to the chairman of Accreditation Committee. Eligibility and Bid forms tender documents can be obtained from PBAC Secretariat at LEYECO III OFFICE, upon payment of non-refundable amount of P1,000.00 during the Pre-Bidding conference.

The bids and awards committee reserves the right to reject any or all bids to waive any defects or formally therein and to accept bids considered complying and most advantageous to the cooperative.

(Sgd) RODRIGO L. VALLERAMOS
PBAC Chairman

(PDI - March 20, 27 & April 2, 2005)

CURRENCIES

April 1, 2005 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Dollar Equivalent	Peso Equivalent
United States	Dollar	0.771248	1.000000	54.7470
Japan	Yen	0.007200	0.009336	0.5111
United Kingdom	Pound	1.457967	1.890400	103.4937
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.098888	0.128218	7.0196
Switzerland	Franc	0.644802	0.836050	45.7712
Canada	Dollar	0.637764	0.826925	45.2717
Singapore	Dollar	0.467423	0.606061	33.1800
Australia	Dollar	0.595788	0.772499	42.2920
Bahrain	Dinar*	2.045859	2.652661	145.2252
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.205661	0.266660	14.5988
Brunei	Dollar	0.466011	0.604230	33.0798
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000082	0.000106	0.0058
Thailand	Baht	0.019710	0.025556	1.3991
UAE	Dirham	0.209989	0.272272	14.9061
Euro	Euro	1.000000	1.296600	70.9850
Argentina	Peso	0.264126	0.342466	18.7490
Brazil	Real	0.289725	0.375657	20.5661
Denmark	Kroner	0.134230	0.174043	9.5283
India	Rupee	0.017677	0.022920	1.2548
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.202987	0.263193	14.4090
Mexico	New Peso	0.069056	0.089538	4.9019
New Zealand	Dollar	0.548736	0.711491	38.9520
Norway	Kroner	0.121732	0.157838	8.6412
Pakistan	Rupee	0.012986	0.016838	0.9218
South Africa	Rand	0.123588	0.160244	8.7729
Korea	Won	0.000760	0.000985	0.0539
Sweden	Kroner	0.109172	0.141553	7.7496
Syria	Pound	0.014857	0.019264	1.0546
Taiwan	Nt Dollar	0.024513	0.031783	1.7400
Venezuela	Bolivar	0.000359	0.000466	0.0255

NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY
Quezon City

NOTICE OF SALE THRU AUCTION

The National Food Authority (NFA) wishes to announce that it will be accepting sealed offers for the Sale thru Auction of 50,000 MT or 1.0-Million Bags 15% brokens Vietnam Rice distributed as follows:

PARTICULARS	VOLUME (IN BGS)	INDICATIVE PRICE PER MODE OF WITHDRAWAL
Farmer's Organizations	200,000	Ex-vessel –P19.40/kg or P970.00/bg
Retailers	200,000	Ex-NFA warehouse–P20.20/kg or P1,010.00/bg
Open to all interested buyers	600,000	

The pre-auction conference and auction proper shall be held at 10:00 AM at the NFA Board Room, 10th Flr., Matimyas Bldg., 101 E. Rodriguez Sr. Ave., Q.C. on the following dates or until the whole volume for auction has been sold/exhausted:

Pre-Auction Conference	Auction Proper
April 7, 2005	April 12, 2005
April 14, 2005	April 19, 2005
April 21, 2005	April 26, 2005

All interested bidders/buyers are required to submit the following documents:

a. Original and xerox copy of NFA license (retailing, wholesaling and/or milling).
b. In case of representative, a duly notarized authorization from the owner, partner, chairman or president that he or she is authorized to represent the business entity in the pre-auction, auction proper and all activities thereto.
c. Offer must be accompanied by Bid Bond equivalent to 10% of the volume bidded in the form of Cashier's or Manager's check payable to NFA issued by a reputable commercial bank in Metro Manila

Interested bidders may secure the terms and conditions starting April 7, 2005 at DMO OCD, 5th Floor, National Food Authority, Matimyas Bldg., 101 E. Rodriguez Sr. Ave., Q.C. from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. For any inquiries, please contact Ms. Espie Tecson at tel. nos. 712-16-72 and 712-17-08.

Bid documents will be available on April 7, 2005 to qualified bidders/offerors upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P2,000.

The National Food Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any formality thereof, and to accept only such bids that are advantageous to the Agency.

(Sgd.) CONRADO DL. IBAÑEZ
Chairman, Bids and Award Committee

(PDI–April 2 & 4, 2005)

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of April 1, 2005)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
	BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES				
	BANKS				
Asiatrust Dev. Bank Inc.	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	50,000
Banco de Oro Univ. Bank	29	30	29	30	1,135,800
Bank of the Phil. Islands	57.5	58.5	57.5	58.5	856,400
China Banking Corp.	685	695	685	695	1,530
Chinatrust Comm. Bank	18	18	18	18	1,000
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	47.5	48	47.5	48	29,800
Export and Ind. Bank Inc.	0.89	0.9	0.85	0.86	7,920,000
International Exch. Bank	18.5	18.5	18.5	18.5	348,300
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	38	38	37	37.5	1,070,100
Philippine National Bank	32	32	31.5	31.5	26,400
Rizal Comm. Banking Corp.	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	1,500
Security Bank Corp.	31.5	31.5	31	31	117,100
Union Bank of the Phil.	29	29.5	29	29	66,000
	FINANCIAL SERVICES				
Bankard Inc.	1	1	1	1	10,000
First Metro Invest. Corp.	260	260	260	260	5,000
Manulife Financial Corp.	2450	2450	2450	2450	140
PCI Leasing & Fin. Inc.	2.1	2.14	2	2.14	119,000
Phil. Stock Exchange Inc.	135	135	135	135	10,300
Sun Life Financial Inc.	1740	1745	1740	1745	230
	COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL				
	COMMUNICATION				
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	18	18.5	18	18.25	105,400
Digital Telecom Phils Inc.	1.5	1.56	1.46	1.54	15,150,000
Easycall Phils. Inc.-Com	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	7,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	940	945	940	945	58,820
Ipeople Inc.	4.8	4.8	4.75	4.75	145,000
Island Info and Tech Inc.	0.06	0.06	0.0575	0.0575	4,500,000
ISM Communications Corp.	0.0725	0.0725	0.065	0.0675	63,300,000
Liberty Telecoms Holdings	0.39	0.39	0.39	0.39	70,000
Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp.	2.16	2.16	2.16	2.16	23,000
Pilipino Tel. Corp.	3.6	3.8	3.55	3.7	19,961,000
Transpacific Broadcast	1.38	1.38	1.38	1.38	50,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	1380	1405	1380	1395	141,390
Ivantage Corp.	0.75	0.79	0.73	0.76	56,540,000
Philweb Corp.	0.026	0.026	0.022	0.022	767,900,000
	POWER & ENERGY				
Manila Electric Co. A	19.25	20	19.25	19.5	366,800
Manila Electric Co. B	31.5	32.5	31.5	32	4,551,800
Petron Corp.	3.95	4.2	3.95	4.1	10,680,000
Salcon Power Corp.	2.38	2.38	2.38	2.38	10,000
Trans-Asia Oil and Energy	1.5	1.5	1.44	1.44	669,000
	TRANSPORTATION SERVICES				
Asian Terminals Inc.	1.96	1.98	1.96	1.98	110,000
Aboitiz Trans. Sys. Corp.	1.82	1.82	1.76	1.76	19,000
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	8.2	8.2	8	8.1	499,000
Keppel Phils. Marine Inc.	0.54	0.56	0.54	0.56	120,000
Lorenzo Shipping Corp.	1.06	1.06	1	1	196,000
	CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS				
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.56	0.56	0.56	0.56	860,000
Holcim Philippines Inc.	4.6	4.6	4.4	4.4	1,612,000
Republic Cement Corp.	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.4	200,000
	FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO				
Alaska Milk Corp.	3.95	3.95	3.85	3.9	96,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	29.5	29.5	29.5	29.5	539,100
RFM Corp.	0.92	0.92	0.92	0.92	200,000
San Miguel Corp. A	56.5	56.5	56	56.5	44,100
San Miguel Corp. B	79.5	79.5	79	79.5	154,200
Vitarich Corp.	0.3	0.3	0.29	0.29	520,000
	HOLDING FIRMS				
Abacus Con Res & Hdg A	0.012	0.012	0.011	0.011	53,500,000
Abacus Con Res & Hdg B	0.013	0.013	0.013	0.013	17,000,000
Ayala Corp.	8.1	8.3	8.1	8.3	7,677,000
Alsons Cons. Res. Inc.	0.6	0.6	0.59	0.59	670,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	4.6	4.8	4.6	4.8	807,000
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	0.0575	0.0575	0.049	0.0525	47,400,000
A. Soriano Corp.	1.98	1.98	1.96	1.98	202,000
APC Group Inc.	0.5	0.5	0.46	0.47	4,910,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.0085	0.0085	0.0085	0.0085	496,000,000
Anglo Phil Holdings Corp.	0.43	0.43	0.43	0.43	50,000
ATN Holdings Inc.	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.6	21,000
Baguio Gold Holdings Corp.	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	72,000
Balabac Resources & Hldgs	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.87	30,000
Bacnotan Cons Indus Inc.	21.5	22	21.5	22	108,000
Boulevard Holdings Inc.	0.19	0.19	0.175	0.18	3,880,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	1.36	1.4	1.28	1.3	47,584,000
A Brown Co. Inc.	0.96	1.1	0.96	1.1	330,000
Basic Consolidated Inc.	0.24	0.25	0.24	0.24	6,270,000
CADP Group Corp.	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.24	30,000
Crown Equities Inc.	0.28	0.28	0.27	0.27	1,350,000
Southeast Asian Cement	0.61	0.61	0.6	0.6	520,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	4.05	4.25	4.05	4.25	2,753,000
Ever-Gotesco Resources	0.06	0.06	0.0575	0.06	6,700,000
Fil-Hispano Holdings Corp.	10.5	10.5	10	10	1,632,600
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	57.5	58	57	57	464,100
Forum Pacific Inc.	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	640,000
Global Equities Inc.	0.13	0.13	0.115	0.12	24,140,000
House of Investments Inc.	1.8	1.8	1.76	1.76	1,048,000
Ionics Inc.	1.76	1.76	1.74	1.74	53,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	124,000
Macroasia Corp.	2.12	2.12	2.02	2.02	535,000
Megaworld Corp.	1.7	1.7	1.66	1.66	2,137,000
Mabuhay Holdings Corp.	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	110,000
Multitech Inv. Corp.	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.36	450,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.61	0.62	0.58	0.59	42,270,000
Prime Orion Phils. Inc.	0.39	0.39	0.37	0.37	1,150,000
Prime Media Holdings Inc.	1.22	1.22	1.22	1.22	7,000
East Asia Power Res. Corp.	0.36	0.36	0.35	0.35	240,000
Roxas Holdings Inc.	1	1.04	1	1.04	150,000
Solid Group Inc.	0.59	0.6	0.59	0.6	1,160,000
Tanduay Holdings Inc.	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2,000
Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.21	0.22	0.18	0.19	11,170,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.39	0.39	0.36	0.38	1,120,000
	MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING				
Active Alliance Inc.	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	210,000
Matsushita Elec Phil Corp.	8	8	8	8	3,000
Music Semiconductors Corp.	1.78	1.78	1.7	1.7	123,000
Mabuhay Vinyl Corp.	0.94	0.95	0.92	0.95	1,300,000
Picop Resources Inc.	0.165	0.175	0.15	0.15	13,240,000
	HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICES				
Belle Corp.	1.68	1.68	1.52	1.6	5,639,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	1.24	1.24	1.2	1.2	1,596,000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	1.58	1.64	1.56	1.58	19,311,000
Manila Jockey Club	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	5,000
Premiere Ent. Prod. Inc.	0.41	0.41	0.4	0.4	2,610,000
	BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS				
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp.(Pdr)	17.5	18	17.5	17.75	1,761,800
ATS Corp. - Preferred	3	3	3	3	1,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series P	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	100
PLDT (10% Pref) Series S	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	100
	PROPERTY				
Ayala Land Inc.	9.3	9.4	9	9.1	5,895,000
Cityland Development Corp.	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	52,000
Cebu Holdings Inc.	0.95	1.04	0.95	1	7,860,000
C&P Homes Inc.	0.34	0.34	0.33	0.33	2,340,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.37	0.39	0.36	0.36	20,360,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.54	0.54	0.52	0.52	5,990,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	1.8	1.82	1.76	1.76	4,939,000
Gotesco Land, Inc.	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	700,000
Kuok Phil. Properties	0.28	0.28	0.27	0.27	1,710,000
Fil-Estate Land Inc.	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.78	260,000
MRC Allied Ind. Inc.	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.24	240,000
Philippine Estates Corp.	0.21	0.21	0.19	0.19	2,360,000
Phil Realty and Holdings	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	650,000
SM Development Corp.	1.9	2	1.74	1.92	1,089,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	8.6	8.6	8.5	8.5	6,429,000
	MINING				
Apex Mining Co., Inc. A	1.14	1.14	1.06	1.06	190,000
Apex Mining Co., Inc.B	1.22	1.22	1.18	1.18	22,000
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.013	0.014	0.013	0.013	135,200,000
Atlas Cons. Min & Dev't	6.9	7.1	6.6	6.6	472,000
Benguet Corp. A	8.5	8.8	8.5	8.8	25,000
Benguet Corp. B	15	15	15	15	100
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.42	0.43	0.4	0.4	22,670,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B	0.47	0.47	0.45	0.45	67,810,000
Manila Mining Corp. A	0.022	0.022	0.02	0.02	150,500,000
Manila Mining Corp. B	0.029	0.03	0.028	0.028	210,100,000
Omico Corp.	0.0085	0.01	0.0085	0.009	3,037,000,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	1.22	1.24	1.2	1.2	1,540,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	1.52	1.54	1.46	1.46	21,010,000
Semirara Mining Corp.	44	45	44	45	362,800
United Paragon Mining Co.	0.35	0.35	0.32	0.32	530,000
	OIL				
Imperial Res.	0.017	0.018	0.016	0.016	34,100,000
Interport Res. B	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	4,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.0075	0.0085	0.0075	0.008	258,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. B	0.0085	0.0085	0.0085	0.0085	88,000,000
Pacifica	0.017	0.019	0.016	0.017	197,100,000
Petroenergy Res. Corp.	2.9	2.9	2.75	2.75	72,000
Sinophil Corp.	0.24	0.25	0.23	0.23	28,740,000
Vulcan Ind'l	0.44	0.48	0.42	0.42	2,550,000

Customs eyes . . .

From page B1

He added that with the proposal, the BOC would be able to better profile the identities of importers as they would be required to open bank accounts. Currently, he said, one problem the BOC encountered was the difficulty in running after importers of questionable shipments because they used fictitious names.

The BOC chief shrugged off concerns that the plan could be contrary to the principle of trade facilitation under the rules of the World Trade Organization. He said requiring importers to declare their importations ahead of the actual shipment would not be restraining trade.

Lina said the BOC would immediately issue a directive requiring importers to open letters-of-credit with banks and pay duties ahead once the government agency has obtained a favorable opinion from the central bank.

He said the tightening plan would cover all importers, except those registered with the Philippine Economic Zone Authority, those whose importations enter through the Subic Freeport, and those accredited by the BOC's Super Green Lanes.

Companies under the BOC's Super Green Lanes, usually large ones, are those that are privileged with fast documentation processing after meeting several requirements, such as proof of good corporate identity through prompt and accurate payment duties.

While the BOC believed that the tightening plan would help to significantly curb smuggling, Lina admitted that one loophole was its inability to cover importations coming through Subic. Under the law, Subic Freeport is outside of Customs territory.

Ayala, foreign firm acquire Sumitomo's stake in BPI

By Doris C. Dumlao

CONGLOMERATE Ayala Corp. and a foreign investor acquired the 6.7-percent stake in Bank of the Philippine Islands recently unloaded by Japanese banking giant Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corp. for P7.22 billion.

In an interview with the INQUIRER yesterday, AC managing director Rufino Luis Manotok said the conglomerate itself bought an additional one-percent stake in BPI, bringing the Ayala group's total holdings to 36 percent from 35 percent.

"We felt there was good value in it. The banking system is recovering and increasing the investment in BPI is a timely move," Manotok said.

AC paid about P1.06 billion for the additional shares. The company disclosed to the Philippine Stock Exchange that it had purchased 22 million additional shares at P48.25 per share, as part of the block sale by exiting Japanese investor Sumitomo.

"If you'll remember, we did something similar with Globe Telecom. When Deutsche Telekom decided to sell, we bought more shares," he added.

If the Ayala group were not conserving funds to pare down debt, Manotok said it would have bought more BPI shares.

"If we had spare cash, we would have bought everything," he said.

Instead, the Ayala executive said the remaining stake in BPI was taken up by a foreign investor, which did not want to be identified.

Of the total shares in BPI, AC itself holds 24.26 percent equivalent to about 544.24 million of the bank's outstanding shares.

The rest of the Ayala group's stake in BPI is held by a holding company jointly owned with foreign partner Development Bank of Singapore, which was put up to increase allowable foreign holdings in the bank. Together with DBS, the Ayala group controls majority of BPI.

With the sale of 149.46 million shares Thursday, Manotok said Sumitomo had fully divested its remaining stake in BPI.

Cement prices to remain stable in 2005, DTI says

GOVERNMENT is trying to keep the lid on cement prices particularly this summer, when construction activity is expected to reach its peak.

By Ronnel W. Domingo

BARRING drastic increases in the cost of power and coal, cement prices should remain stable even at the peak of construction season, said Trade Secretary Juan B. Santos yesterday.

A 40-kilogram bag of cement is selling for between P153-P165 each, according to DTI's nationwide monitoring of prices of key commodities.

Santos yesterday said that industry players were striving to keep prices stable by improving efficiency and looking at ways to reduce electricity expenses.

The cost of electricity used to run plants, and the coal to heat raw materials for making cement, account for between 50 percent and 80 percent of the variable production costs.

Last month, Santos said the DTI had stepped up its monitoring of cement prices as continued uptrend has pushed it up to P165 per 40-kilogram bag or 9.3 percent higher over a three-month period.

He said the DTI was closely coordinating with its regional and provincial offices nationwide in monitoring the trends in cement prices to appropriately respond to any unusual price increases, especially during the summer months when demand for cement peaks.

Citing a report from the Cement Manufacturers Association of the Philippines, Santos said the cement plants were running at only 55 percent of capacity in the past seven years due to falling local demand.

"They also warned that excess capacity and the threat of (cheap imports) still exists in the region," Santos said.

The biggest threat comes from China—the largest producer in Asia—which has spare capacity of 80 million tons a year, which it could dedicate for exports.

Breaktime

From page B2

sign that San Miguel is gearing up for major expansion.

It has been long overdue.

* * *

THAT rights offering will pay for part of the company's acquisition. As everybody knows, except perhaps some action stars in the Senate, San Miguel is positioning itself to become a major food player in the entire region.

For instance, it is fighting for control of the biggest dairy company in Australia, called National Foods. Reports had it that, after San Miguel submitted the highest bid for the company, the next highest bidder, Fonterra of New Zealand, decided to raise its offer.

San Miguel is studying its next move, surely, but then again, it can just buy another dairy company abroad, such as New Zealand Dairy.

The thing is, San Miguel wants to diversify its business, one, by investing overseas and, two, by going into other business lines.

It already acquired the biggest fruit juice business in Australia, called Berri Ltd., and another big company in Singapore, called King's Creameries.

What is in all that jazz? If things go wrong in one country where it has investments, it is not the end of the world for San Miguel, right? It has investments all over the freaking region, right?

And that's why, even those stockholders who did not exercise their rights to buy shares in the offering, will benefit from the company's fresh capital.

The offering will help make a bigger—all right, much bigger—San Miguel. Its expansion will surely generate more profits.

In other words, the stockholder who did not exercise the rights will have a smaller slice of the San Miguel pie, but it is going to be a bigger pie.

In the end, the smaller slice will come out bigger than the old share in the small pie.

Live in a Resort-Like Garden Community.
A Dream Home within City Limits.

Pasadena Villas
FOR SALE / LEASE!!!
380 N. Domingo St. San Juan, M.M.
For inquiries call:
523-6640
727-7941

NTC's VoIP policy threatens telcos

Clarissa S. Batino

THE NATIONAL Telecommunications Commission recently came out with a draft policy that would allow even non-telco players to provide voice calls through the Internet for as low as 10 US cents per minute.

Major telco players are currently charging an average of 40 US cents per minute.

The draft policy on international dialing threatens the businesses of Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. and Globe Telecom Inc.

Both have insisted that long distance calls through the Internet should be classified as a telecommunications service, which only telco entities with congressional franchises could offer.

PLDT said VoIP providers would encroach on the operations of legitimate players, increasing the risks of non-telco companies bypassing the networks of telcos and allow foreign carriers to provide services in the country.

"The telecommunications industry may collapse because the [telcos'] stable source of revenue, like voice service for both domestic and international, and inbound and outbound calls, which are sources of subsidy to local exchange carriers, will be eaten up by the [VOIP providers]," said PLDT in its position paper.

The NTC on Wednesday declared that the Voice over Internet Protocol, or VoIP, was a value-added service. This means that even non-telco players like Internet service providers may offer long distance services using high-speed Internet technology as opposed to the traditional circuits telco players use.

According to industry sources, more than 50 percent of the world's overseas phone traffic already passes through the Internet.

NTC chair Ronald Solis said there were interested foreign groups that would like to offer VoIP services in the Philippines once a clear policy had been set. The commission set a public hearing on May 3 to discuss the draft circular on the VoIP.

Solis said the NTC would issue the circular by the second semester.

"VoIP is a technology that would drive the price of voice calls down," said the NTC chief. "This would benefit the public while also allow telecom companies to expand their broadband business."

According to Solis, the price of voice calls in many countries has gone down.

He said the technology would benefit some 8 million Filipino workers overseas and their families who can talk to their loved ones "as they see their images on screen."

Ramon Isberto, spokesperson for PLDT, said the company could not say how the NTC policy would affect the telco's bottomline.

"The business impact of the introduction of VoIP services will depend on a number of factors aside from the regulatory framework," Isberto said. "In the US, VoIP took off only after broadband became widely available. Telcos are major players in that market."

Economic Planning Secretary Romulo Neri had been pushing for the VoIP, believing it would reduce the cost of telco services in the country.

The cost of telco services in the country is one of the highest in the region, Neri said.

Rogelio Quevedo, legal officer of the PLDT subsidiary Smart Communications Inc., said that VoIP should not be classified as either a telco or value-added service.

The VoIP is a technology used to deliver a service, he said. What should be classified is the service that would emanate from the technology.

"When you offer a basic service like voice, you have to comply with the requirements of operating a voice service," Quevedo argued.

He added that a congressional franchise would be needed before such a service could be offered.

Already, Internet cafés' run by PLDT subsidiary Netopia are already offering cheaper long distance calls through VoIP. Solis said that no objection was heard from PLDT when Netopia started selling long-distance calls via the Internet.

Solis is confident that major carriers like PLDT and Globe would support the NTC's decision. Even if they don't, the decision that VoIP was a value-added service would likely stay, he added.

It would help, he said, if Congress could pass a law defining the VoIP as a value-added service like text messaging or Internet operations, and that VoIP players would not need a franchise.

Based on the NTC's draft circular, all a VoIP player would have to do was to register with the NTC prior to operations.

To prevent telco carriers from discriminating against VoIP players, the commission also directed the network providers to provide "equal access and the same prices for substantially similar services to VAS providers."

IBM recommends Microsoft® Windows® XP Professional for Business.

intel inside pentium 4

IBM ThinkCentre A50
System Features
Intel® Pentium® 4 Processor 2.8GHz
400 MHz FSB
Microsoft® Windows® XP Professional
256MB DDR SDRAM
80GB hard disk drive
CD-ROM
10/100 Ethernet Integrated
3/1/1 parts, labor, on-site warranty
E54 15" CRT Monitor
Express Price PhP46,150.00†
8175KAA

IBM ThinkCentre A50
System Features
Intel® Pentium® 4 Processor 3.0GHz
800 MHz FSB
Microsoft® Windows® XP Professional
256MB DDR SDRAM
40GB hard disk drive
CD-ROM
10/100 Ethernet Integrated
3/1/1 parts, labor, on-site warranty
E54 15" CRT Monitor
Express Price PhP49,800.00†
8175PAM

At just PhP46,150†, this desktop can save your data.

Maybe you've had a virus attack. Or a software installation failure. Or your operating system's been corrupted. At the push of a button on any IBM ThinkCentre desktop, a "toolkit" with system information, diagnostics and recovery options comes to rescue your saved data. Just sit back and follow along. And with a LAN connection, only a ThinkCentre desktop lets you get help via the Web even when your operating system's down. The IBM ThinkCentre desktops with Intel® Pentium® 4 Processors. Work with a feeling of confidence. Instead of that sinking feeling. And see how it feels to save some money.

And a tidy sum of money.

Rescue and Recovery.
Only on a ThinkCentre.

IBM ThinkCentre A50
System Features
Intel® Pentium® 4 Processor 2.8GHz
400 MHz FSB
PC DOS License
128MB DDR SDRAM
40GB hard disk drive
CD-ROM
10/100 Ethernet Integrated
3/1/1 parts, labor, on-site warranty
E54 15" CRT Monitor
Express Price PhP37,400.00†
8175IOA

IBM ThinkCentre A50
System Features
Intel® Celeron® Processor 2.53GHz
533 MHz FSB
Microsoft® Windows® XP Home
256MB DDR SDRAM
40GB hard disk drive
CD-ROM
10/100 Ethernet Integrated
3/1/1 parts, labor, on-site warranty
E54 15" CRT Monitor
Express Price PhP39,000.00†
8175LAB

IBM

995 2426 | 1 800 1888 1426 | direct@ph.ibm.com
Monday to Saturday 9am – 6pm and Sunday 9am – 3pm

IBM Partners: ABC Computers Co. Inc. • Accent Micro Products Inc. • Advance Microsystems Inc. • Advance Solutions Inc. • American Technologies, Inc. • Aries IT Systems • ATP Peripherals Phils., Inc. • Avis Computers • Axes International Inc. • Ayala Systems Technology Inc. • Columbia Technologies, Inc. • Eco-IT Solutions Corporation • Electroworld Office Systems • Information Products Corporation • MG Business Systems, Inc. • Micro Image Company, Ltd. • Micro Pacific Technologies & Systems Corporation • Microbase, Inc. • Microphase Enterprise Company • Northgate Technologies, Inc. • Productivity Tech Services Inc. • Questronix Corporation • Silicon Valley Computer Center • Valueline Systems & Solutions Corporation • Virtrun Computer Systems, Inc. • Virtuality Information Technology Systems • Zenith Systems Corporation
IBM Corporate Resellers: Creative Technologies, Inc. • Ng Khai Development Corporation • Personal Computer Specialists, Inc. • SM Equicom Computer Services, Inc. • Uneon Computer Systems, Inc.

†While stocks last. IBM reserves the right to change specifications or other product information without notice. This publication could include technical inaccuracies or typographical errors. IBM product names are trademarks of International Business Machines Corporation. ©2005 IBM Corp. All rights reserved. Microsoft® and Windows® are registered trademarks of Microsoft Corporation. Certain Microsoft® software product(s) included with this computer may use technological measures for copy protection. IN SUCH EVENT, YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO USE THE PRODUCT IF YOU DO NOT FULLY COMPLY WITH THE PRODUCT ACTIVATION PROCEDURES. Product activation procedures and Microsoft's privacy policy will be detailed during initial launch of the product, or upon certain reinstallations of the software product(s) or reconfigurations of the computer, and may be completed by Internet or telephone (toll charges may apply). Intel, Intel Inside, Intel Inside logo, Intel Celeron, Intel Celeron logo, Celeron, Intel Xeon, Intel SpeedStep, Itanium, Pentium and Pentium III Xeon are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intel Corporation or its subsidiaries in the United States and other countries. All rights reserved.

SCIENCE/HEALTH

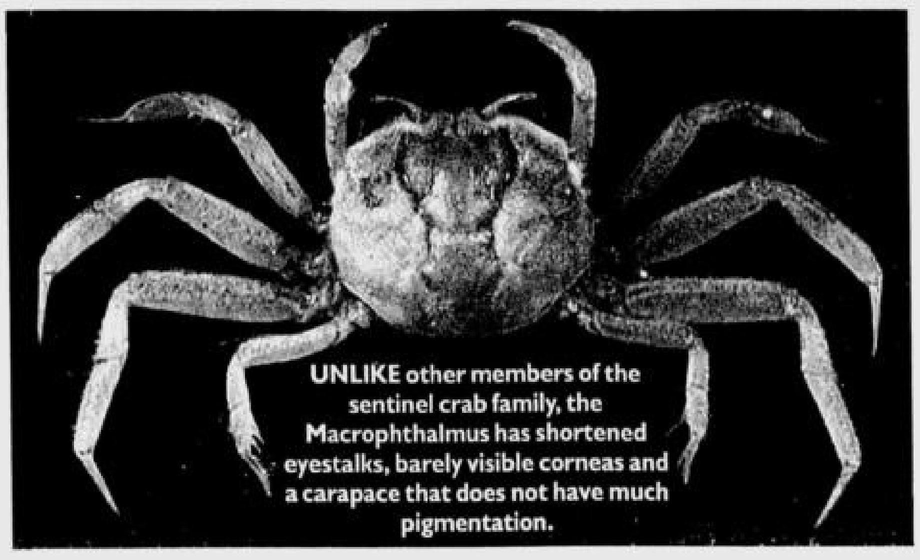
Text us your feedback: inquirer hea name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

E-mail: pr_science_health@inquirer.com.ph

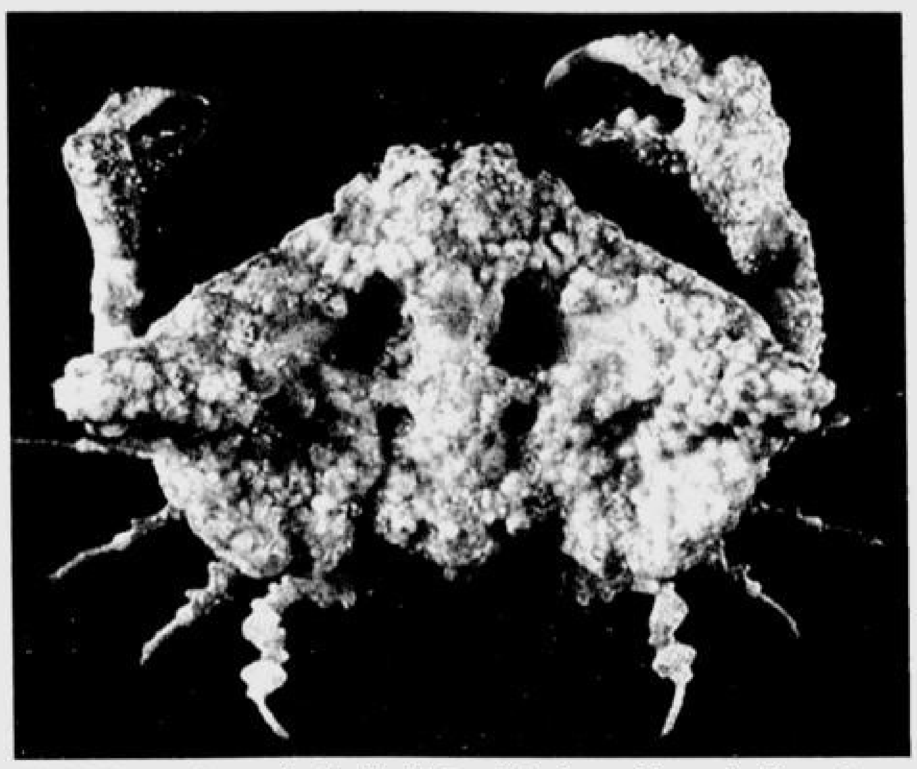
Editor **Cesar D. Mangawang**
Assistant Editor **Stella O. Gonzales**

New marine species found off Bohol island

By Charles E. Buban



UNLIKE other members of the sentinel crab family, the Macrophthalmus has shortened eyestalks, barely visible corneas and a carapace that does not have much pigmentation.



ONE of the most interesting finds is this Pseudolambrus, a bizarre-looking crab measuring 3 cm across. This newest member of parthenopids, or crabs known for their oval shaped bodies and large nodules, is difficult to spot because of its coral-looking camouflage

THE WATERS off Panglao island in the province of Bohol claim the single richest concentration of marine life in the region, according to an international team of marine scientists involved in the most comprehensive coral reefs mollusk and crustacean survey ever undertaken worldwide.

Proponents of the Panglao Marine Biodiversity Project 2004 recently released its initial report claiming the discovery of hundreds of new crabs, hermit crabs, shrimps, seaslugs, and microshells species off the island's waters.

Many of these species are considered endemic to Panglao Island, meaning they are found nowhere else in the world, and "micro-endemics," meaning they have ranges limited to a very small geographical area.

1,200 species

The waters off the island belong to the so-called Bohol Marine Triangle, which lies at the center of the Indo-Pacific biogeographic province that includes the eastern portion of the Indian Ocean, South China Sea, Sulu Sea, Philippine Sea, Celebes Sea, Coral Sea and the southwestern portion of the Pacific Ocean.

Initial results have been astounding, especially when the study area's limited extent is considered: about 1,200 different species of crabs and shrimps were collected just around the island.

This is considered a phenomenal number by many researchers, especially when compared to the likes of Japan, which has around 1,600 different species in all, according to Prof. Philippe Bouchet of the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle and Panglao 2004 co-principal investigator.

Also, the number of species of mollusks catalogued was in excess of 5,000, many of which were minute-size adults.

"I hope this will bring the recognition of the area, particularly around the island, as an important site of biological diversity in the Southeast Asian region," said Bouchet.

Marine diversity

Around 70 scientists from 17 countries, including the Philippines, carried out the study between May and July last year.

The project was initiated by the Total Foundation and the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, together with the University of San Carlos in Cebu City and the Asean Regional Center for Biodiversity Conservation.

"Panglao was picked as the site for the study because of the diversity of its marine habitats and convenient logistical facilities," said Dr. Danilo Largo of the University of San Carlos and the project's co-principal investigator.

MOST of the specimen catalogued measure just a few millimeters long, like this Lilliconus species that grows only up to 3-4 mm.

He said the Philippines joins Indonesia and Papua New Guinea in what marine scientists call the "Golden Triangle," wherein more species of coral, sponges, fish and invertebrates can be found than anywhere else in the world.

"This project is important for the Philippines considering that much remains to be learned about the biodiversity of various ecosystems and that the loss of these species would eliminate the chance to study how flora and fauna help in the overall integrity of the environment we live in," said Largo.

Species richness

The purpose of Panglao 2004 was to collect data on species richness that would be comparable to those in other tropical Pacific sites.

The collection was done using both academic and traditional methods such as dredging and trawling, brushing, diving and deep-water nets (known as *lumun-lumun* among the island's fishermen).

"We expect that our results will feed new concepts into conservation biology and protection of coral reefs, which together with rainforests are the biologically richest ecosystems in the earth," said Bouchet.

While the major phase of field work and the expedition report are already finished, the cataloguing, documentation and publication (based on material sampled) are expected to keep an international network of specialists busy for many years yet.

Total Philippines president and managing director Jeff Attwood, who also represents Total Foundation, is confident that the data gathered from the project will help agencies worldwide acknowledge the country's waters as repositories of rare or highly diversified marine life.

"This should pave the way for the protection and conservation of the Philippine's underwater environment," Attwood said.

In search of God's genes

(Second of three parts)

DISCOVER

Massie Santos Ballon

TWO weeks ago, I introduced Jonathon Keats and Dean Hamer, two men who went searching for God using genetics. This week we take a closer look at the work of performance artist Jonathon Keats.

To understand Keats' project, we need a quick review of Charles Darwin's theory of evolution. Darwin believed all living things were related like a tree with a single trunk representing a common ancestor and the tree's larger branches, each with their own, smaller branches, represent populations migrating and adapting to new environments. The best known part of the theory states that man is descended from apes.

Scientific evidence aside, not everyone believes in evolution. Creationists, for example, take the Bible literally and believe that God created the world, man and all other living things individually. The debate between creationists and evolutionists continues to this day. Several states in the United States are currently fighting over whether or not to teach an alternate theory to evolution centered on God's role in development of living organisms in schools.

'Divineus deus'

Last year, Keats, a performance artist, developed a series of experiments, the last of which was carried out during his gallery exhibit last September, to see if the creationists or those who upheld the evolutionary theory were right.

Along the way he founded the International Association for Divine Taxonomy (IADT), a nondenominational art project whose mission statement declared the group's dedication to "collecting scientifically precise species descriptions, and facilitating accurate placement on the phylogenetic tree, of all deities worldwide, inclusive of the god commonly known as Yahweh, Jehovah, and/or Allah."

The IADT assigned the name *Divineus deus* to this particular species.

The problem with the IADT's mission statement is that there are no examples of *Divineus deus* on earth. Accordingly, Keats designed his experiments to find out where these genes would be on Darwin's Tree of Life.

If the evolutionists were correct, then the *Divineus deus* genes should be most similar to the earliest life form on earth: single-celled organisms like algae. If the creationists were correct, then the genes should be most like man's, who was, as the Bible says, created in God's own image.

Fruit flies, algae

To represent the creationists, Keats opted not to use actual humans because, among other things "[they] just don't reproduce quickly enough, and they don't do so in ways that conform to laboratory standards," they wouldn't fit in the jars he would be using for his experiments, and having different test environments raises questions about the validity of the results.

So Keats used fruit flies, a.k.a *Drosophila melanogaster*, which are easy to care for and don't mind living in glass bottles.

To represent the evolutionists, Keats chose a species of single-celled cyanobacterium, a blue-green algae known as *Fremyella diplosiphon*.

Keats defined godliness as a condition determined by omnipotence, omnipresence and omniscience. As it is difficult to prove the first two qualities in his test subjects unless they talked to him or acted like his own personal genie, Keats decided to look at omnipresence.

By exposing the fruit flies and algae to conditions God would find acceptable—in this case, seven days of constant prayer—Keats theorized that whichever organism became more godlike, i.e., multiplied more rapidly than the other, would be one genetically closer to *Divineus deus*.

Bombarded with prayers

Keats set up four pairs of jars; each pair had a jar of fruit flies and a jar of algae.

Three pairs of jars had tape recorders attached to the bottles for seven days—a number chosen for its religious significance—and each test group heard continuous loops of either the Christian Kyrie ("Lord have mercy"), the Jewish daily prayer Shema, or the Islamic prayer Allahu Akbar ("God is great").

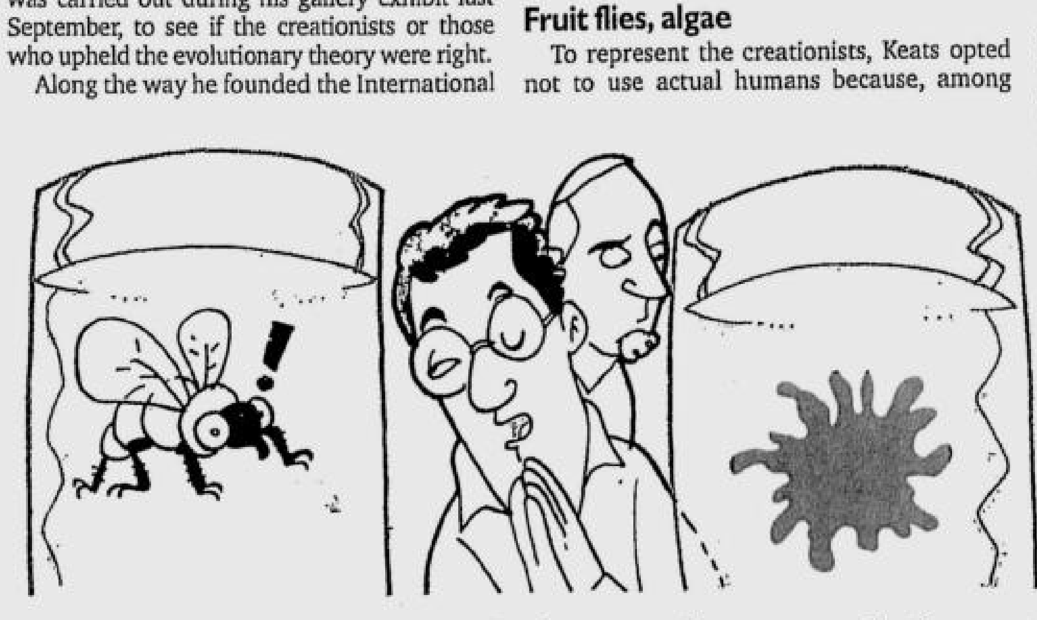
The control pair spent the same seven days listening to live secular talk radio.

After seven days, Keats did a census of each jar population and found that the fruit flies and algae exposed to the Kyrie multiplied more rapidly than the subjects in the other jars.

He ascribed these findings to several factors, among them the possibility that the Shema and Allahu Akbar aren't God's favorite prayers in those religions.

As his project is, quite literally, a work of art, however, it seems unlikely that anyone else will try to reproduce his findings.

(Next week: A look at Dean Hamer's work.)



A puzzle, a solution

EUREKA!

Queena N. Lee-Chua

BEETHOVEN Cheng [Beethoven.Cheng@oracle.com], a math whiz and puzzle aficionado, sends us a nice puzzle:

What is the smallest decimal number composed of only 1's and 0's, that is divisible by 225?

Send your solutions to me by e-mail at blessbook@yahoo.com, or by snail mail to the Ateneo de Manila University, Mathematics Department, Loyola Heights, Quezon City. The first reader to send the correct solutions will receive an autographed copy of my latest book "Are Scientists Atheists?" (Anvil Publishing, 2003).

Tackling calculus

Still on math, a gentleman who prefers to remain anonymous has this query:

I was a freshman at Ateneo de Manila in 1993. I took calculus, but did not do well. I transferred to another university, took up calculus, and did not do well, either. Resigned to defeat, I transferred to a course which did not require calculus.

Although I may have not tried my best the first time, I think I was serious in my second and third attempts. I was very interested in the courses that I took but couldn't finish them because I couldn't get past calculus. I have been working for four years now and I am considering going back to school to pursue a master's degree that requires calculus. Am I beyond hope, or is there some way you can help me?

Algebra, geometry

No one without a learning disability or profound mental damage is beyond hope. Calculus understanding requires mastery of college algebra and analytic geometry, and I suspect that you probably barely passed these subjects.

If you are really serious, then review the basics first (get hold of Algebra made easy books, such as the "Algebra for Dummies," which despite its name, is for everyone). After you feel you know enough, then go to calculus.

Take things slowly. Since you are no longer enrolled in a formal class, you can go at your own pace. (I am not sure there is a Calculus Made Easy, but I suspect it exists. If so, buy a copy.)

Read the chapters in order. Math is hierarchical—chapter 2 builds on chapter 1, chapter 3 builds on chapters 1 and 2, and so on. If you don't understand one topic, either ask someone who does (your graduate school teacher is your best bet, or perhaps a college classmate). Do not try to skip it in the hope that the problem will disappear. If, for instance, you don't understand derivatives, do not jump to integrals.

Practice

The crux of doing well in calculus tests (and other subjects) is practice, practice, practice. Answer all the exercises in the book, and I mean all. If you had done this in college, I am sure you would have passed. (Most students answer a few exercises and hope the teacher will focus on these same questions. Calculus is too broad, and the concepts too many, for you to understand it with only limited exercises.)

You may want to have a tutor on hand, not every day, but for those times when an understanding mind can be of invaluable help.

I am happy you are not discouraged with your previous attempts, and that you are in fact gearing yourself up to try once more. This shows seriousness and maturity, but remember, "there is no royal road to geometry" and definitely the road to calculus may even be more daunting. But millions of students every year pass calculus exams. I am sure you will be one of them in the future. Good luck.

GM rice could reduce blindness in kids

SCIENTISTS in Britain have developed a strain of genetically modified rice which they say could reduce vitamin A deficiency and childhood blindness in developing countries, the BBC said on Monday.

The biotechnology firm Syngenta's laboratories in Britain has developed a strain of "golden rice" that produces around 20 times as much betacarotine—which the body converts to vitamin A—as previous varieties, it reported.

The World Health Organization estimates that up to 500,000 children go blind each year because of vitamin A deficiency.

Syngenta said it is making the new rice strain available for free to research centers across Asia, which will begin field trials if they receive approval from their governments, according to the BBC.

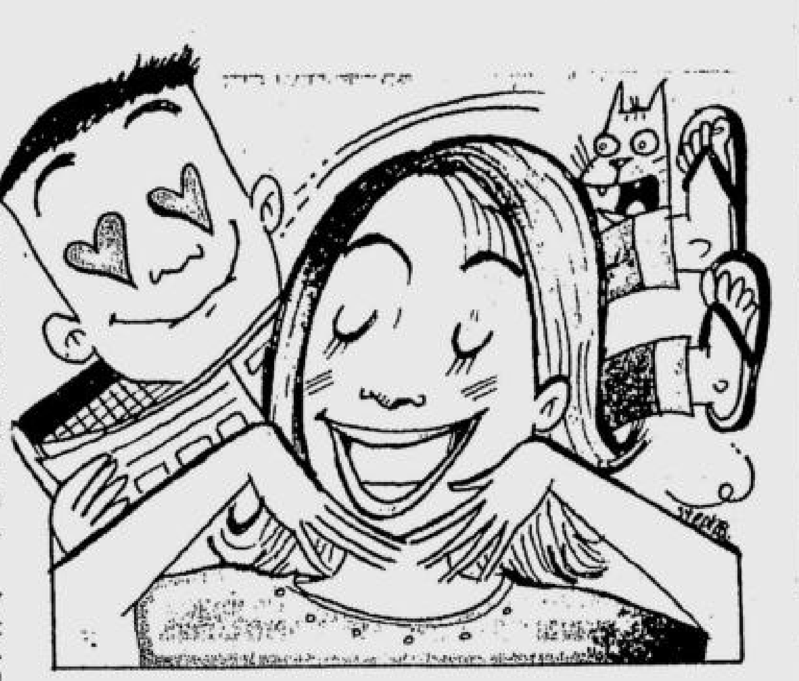
An original strain of "golden rice" was developed in Switzerland five years ago, but it did not produce enough betacarotene. Nor has it been grown in field trials in Asia because of concerns about genetically modified agriculture.

Some agricultural experts and environmental groups say a better way to fight vitamin A deficiency is ensuring people get a balanced diet.

AFP

Some contraceptive pills also anti-acne

By Yolanda Sotelo-Fuertes
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau



DAGUPAN CITY—The pill has gone a long way from being a mere family planning tool. Still serving primarily as an oral contraceptive, drug companies have developed different kinds to fit different needs of women. Like a pill to fight acne and a pill for weight-conscious women.

During a workshop on family planning in Pangasinan last week, two drug companies introduced their versions of the pill that help fight acne. The workshop was sponsored by the provincial government and the cooperating agencies of the United States Agency for International Development.

Organon introduced Gracial which the company dubbed as the "pill for acne-free skin."

Gracial contains two female hormones: desogestrel (a progestogen) and ethynlestadiol (an estrogen).

This pill has a very low dose of both hormones and can be used to treat mild to moderate acne, a skin disorder that is influenced by hormones.

A brochure on the pill explained that in general, male sex hormones (androgens) can cause worsening of acne while some female sex hormones (estrogens) may cause improvement of the skin disease.

"Most combined pills work a little bit like androgen but unlike other progestogens, the androgen effects of desogestrel is very low. Thus, with Gracial, the positive effect of ethinylestradiol on acne is maintained," the brochure stated.

Diane 35

Another company that produces a contraceptive pill that doubles as an anti-acne pill is Schering, which introduced Diane 35 (Cyproterone acetate 2 mg and Ethinylestradiol .035 mg) several years ago.

According to the company's presentation, Diane 35 is indicated for acne, seborrhea, mild to moderate cases of hirsutism (hairy skin) and androgenic alopecia (partial or complete loss of hair).

Diane 35 reduces sebum production by blocking the effect of androgen on the skin and also reduces the formation of new spots and blockheads.

The two companies have also introduced pills that won't have effects on the weight of women.

Other benefits

One pill that has minimal effects on metabolism is Yasmin, also by Schering. It counterbalances "water retention-related weight gain, has positive effects on skin and has positive effects on well-being," the drug's brochure said.

Organon also manufactures Marvelon 28, a contraceptive pill, which the company claims has "negligible effect on body weight" and a "possible good effect on the skin."

For breastfeeding women, Organon manufactures progestogen-only pills, namely Exluton (Lynestrenol) and Cerazette.

The brochure on Exluton said estrogen lessens the milk flow of breastfeeding women. The two pills, being estrogen-free, have no effect on milk flow.

Women who want low-priced oral contraceptives may buy products from DKP Philippines, which markets pills and other family planning methods to the poorest population groups that need them. DKT is able to sell the family planning supplies at low cost because it is being supported by USAID. Its Lady pill costs P22 per cycle while the Trust pill costs P30 per cycle.

Have you taken your vitamins today?

By Rafael R. Castillo, MD

MEDICAL FILES

I USED to be a skeptic as to the benefits of vitamins and food supplements, but there have been ample data in recent years indicating that some—not all—of these food supplements can confer some health benefits particularly during times of stress.

Any working human sometimes feels that his energy is sapped to almost zero level with his daily dose of stress. And when we say stress, it's not only mental or emotional stress, but physical stress brought about by the simple wear-and-tear of daily life.

The relative dramatic advances in the understanding of vitamins and food supplements have not been serendipitous. They have been achieved through years of critical scientific inquiry subjecting various vitamin preparations to the same rigors of clinical trials just like drugs for various diseases.

Some positive effects have been shown with some preparations, equivocal findings with some, and negative results with a few. Let your doctor, not the paid ads, guide you on which vitamins and food supplements can be of benefit to you.

Increasing consumption

About two decades ago, less than 10 percent of the population took vitamins and food supplements. Now, more than 50 percent regularly take some of them. And we're not talking of one preparation only. People often take them in multiple and complex regimens.

There are two popular movie stars who are in their late 70s who swear to the health- (and sex-) enhancing efficacy of the palm-full regimen of food supplements they take every day.

More and more physicians appear to be newly converted advocates and consumers themselves. I know a few who used to argue in medical forums that vitamins and food supplements served no purpose, but are now religious consumers of some vitamins.

Recent polls in the United States have demonstrated that a good number of heart specialists take vitamin E and other supplements like omega-3 fish oil and coenzyme Q-10, and recommend them to their patients.

It makes sense

Why the sudden surge of interest? Dr. Noel Bairey Merz, director of Preventive and Rehabilitative Cardiac Center at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, says that taking vitamins, herbs or supplements makes intuitive sense.

"At a time when industrial farming methods may produce food that is less nutritious than previously, combined with an aging population that may not adequately absorb food nutrients, nutrient supplementation could make sense," Dr. Merz explains.

Food supplements from natural sources also makes sense because many of our life-saving pharmaceutical drugs originally came from products of nature (aspirin from tree bark, cholesterol-lowering statins from yeast). To some health experts, this underscores the concept that nature has powerful substances at her disposal that can have significant health-enhancing effects.

Dr. Merz however injects a word of caution about the injudicious use of vitamins, herbs and supplements. Consumers must remember that they are unregulated in most countries, even in the places where they are manufactured, such as in the United States.

"These products can include any amount of a substance of unknown quality and safety, and no one, including the consumer, will ever be the wiser," explains Dr. Merz.

Active ingredient

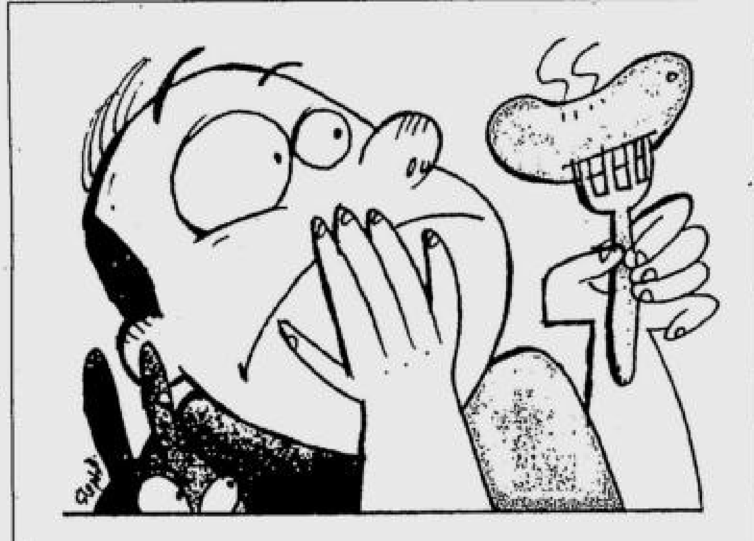
But looking at it from another perspective, the lack of active ingredient in US preparations may probably be a blessing in disguise. Randomized, controlled trial literature is increasingly demonstrating the power of vitamins, herbs and supplements to have significant health effects. When substances are powerful enough to have health benefits, they typically have the capacity to also cause harm.

And since Filipinos have taken the aggressiveness of Americans in taking high doses of these herbs and supplements, this insufficient quantity of the active substance may prevent undue adverse effects.

For those who regularly take vitamins and herbs, it's better to stick to the recommended doses, and not a milligram higher than what the body requires.

There are usually established daily requirements for most of the vitamins we're taking. Never take high or mega doses of vitamin C as some do, even if it's supposed to be water-soluble and can easily be eliminated in the urine. It can do more harm than good.

If you take more of the fat-soluble vitamins like vitamins A, D, E and K than what your body needs, you can also get into trouble with toxicity problems.



Food myths exposed

(Last of two parts)

- **Packaging used in instant food is harmful.**

Food regulatory boards inspect the packaging of each type of food that hits the market shelves, and they have especially high standards for instant food packaging. So food manufacturers take great pains to meet these standards, otherwise their products won't see the light of day. Manufacturers make sure that their product packaging undergoes a series of tests. Food-grade styrofoam, which keeps food properly stored and insulates heated food to keep it at optimal eating temperature longer than other types of packaging, can withstand heat well over the boiling point of water, and any lining used on the packaging (like wax) is harmless when ingested (if ever) even on a daily basis.

- **All preservatives are harmful.**

Absolutely not! Of late the word "preservatives" has acquired negative connotations, but most of them are not harmful and actually make your food safer to eat. They do this by keeping away harmful bacteria, preventing molds from growing, and keeping spoilage at bay. The upside to this is that food lasts longer, making it easier to transport over long distances—meaning that food that wouldn't normally be possible for you to eat is readily available and reasonably priced. Without preservatives, food safety would be shady and things would spoil before they've been used up.

Ingredient labels

- **Manufacturers of instant food don't include harmful ingredients on the packaging list.**

Health buffs are aware that food ingredient labels should be scrutinized for every product purchased every time. Although food and beverage manufacturers are often improving and changing their products, changes in ingredients must be listed on ingredient labels. If they fail to do so, the product is recalled by food regulatory boards—so if you've been seeing a product on the shelves of your supermarket for quite a while now, it means that it passed muster when it came to listing its proper ingredients.

- **There are "good" foods and "bad" foods.**

Despite all this segregating of healthy from unhealthy food, there is no such thing as "bad" food. What there are, "bad" diets! Eating should be a joyful experience and no foods necessarily have to be banned from our plates for us to be healthy. What is important is that we eat a balanced diet. This means we should eat our fruits and veggies, consume dairy products moderately, and avoid too much sugar and focus on achieving our daily macronutrient intake. Therefore our diets should have a basis of macronutrient-rich foods in our bread, pasta, rice, potatoes or noodles. This will help keep our energy levels high and keep the body's systems running at optimum condition.

Mad Science, Nasa partners in education

THE MAD Science Group, a provider of fun, hands-on and educational science shows for kids, has joined hands with the National Aeronautics Space Administration's (Nasa) Langley Center for Distance Learning to spark the imagination of children the world over and to encourage more young people to take up science-related careers.

"This great partnership strengthens our mission to attract more children to rediscover the fun in learning science. Nasa's credibility gives this endeavor a stronger image and brings to life all Mad Science plans to reach more children all over the world," said Francis J. Kong, CEO of Funworks Inc., the Philippine franchisee of Mad Science.

The Nasa Langley Center for Distance Learning uses Nasa research to develop educational activities and programs to increase awareness of how science, technology, engineering and mathematics relate to the real world. The partnership enables the educational center to integrate age-appropriate Nasa content within Mad Science's enrichment programs for kids to experience the awe-inspiring wonder of Nasa's activities.

Mad Science partnered with Nasa as early as in 2001 to create the live-action production "Mad Mission to Mars: 2025" at the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex in Cape Canaveral, Florida. It is an innovative marriage of 3D character animation, audience interaction and sound, lighting and special effects.

A MAD Scientist demonstrates the process of sublimation to kids in the "Heaven Effect" experiment.

What was intended as an added feature at the visitor complex to fire up the imagination and creativity of Nasa's young guests turned into one of the center's main attractions.

Mad Science has also developed three additional traveling shows that visit theme parks and local fair venues across the United States.

The Canada-based Mad Science has already established a global distribution network. In the Philippines, it has invaded more than a hundred elementary and high schools and has also set a trend in birthday parties and special events in purveying an education-themed presentation.

Mad Science has done presentations and workshops in Ateneo de Manila University, De La Salle University, Xavier School, Immaculate Conception Academy, The Learning Tree, Woodrose, St. Stephen's School, and MGC New Life School, among others.

For inquiries, contact Alkali Alona at 347-5320, 374-5339, 0919-3601067 or e-mail funworks@info.com.ph.

SCISCOPE

Seminar on wastewater treatment

THE DEPARTMENT of Environment and Natural Resources and the Water Environment Association of the Philippines Inc. will conduct a seminar-workshop on "Planning and Design of Water and Wastewater Treatment Plants" at the 8 Waves Hotel in Ulingan, San Rafael, Bulacan on April 7 and 8.

This was announced by Lormelyn Claudio, DENR-Environmental Management Bureau Region 3 director, and engineer Carlito M. Santos Jr., WEAP president.

The seminar will give the latest update on the Clean Water Act implementing rules and regulations, the new self-monitoring report format of the Pollution Control Offices, the design of wastewater treatment plant, hazardous waste management, heavy metal treatment and sludge management system.

The design of wastewater treatment plant will cover the sizing of treatment unit facilities such as screens, equalization tank, dissolved air flotation, oil and grease separation, activated sludge process, tertiary filtration, odor abatement and nutrients removal.

The seminar will also provide water district engineers the basic approach in preparing water supply system, design of conventional water supply system, and laboratory design of water constituents.

Selected companies with track records in operating and maintaining water supply and waste management systems will share their experiences with the participants.

It will be the third activity of WEAP for 2005 to continue its commitment to preserve a clean water system in the country, said Santos. For queries, details and reservations, contact Hershey Vassallo or Resee Rubiano of DENR-EMB Region 3 at (045) 961-5206 or (045) 961-5203 or WEAP staff Joy Macasaya at 371-9790 or 410-1119.

Coconut fiber good for your heart

AT PRESENT, dietary fiber has not been classified as an essential nutrient but the US surgeon general and Professional Health Association are widely advocating the consumption of 20-35 grams of dietary fiber to promote not only a healthier cardio vascular system but a healthy digestive system as well.

Johns Hopkins Medical Center is one of those institutions that included the increase intake of dietary fiber in the diet as part of their cardiac rehabilitation protocol.

One source of dietary fiber is the coconut. The coconut is dubbed as the tree of life because of the various uses and benefits it can give. As a functional food, coconut products are used for cooking and baking.

A renewed attention is now given to the beneficial use of coconut meat as a source of dietary fiber. According to the Philippine Food and Nutrition Research Institute, coconut meat fiber has a comparable quantity of dietary fiber compared to oats. The same source says coconut has a higher dietary fiber compared to wheat.

Kolestrim capsule a new product by ABS Herbs contains pure coconut meat fiber. It helps trim down unwanted cholesterol in the body—a cost-effective alternative to expensive cholesterol-lowering drugs. This food supplement provides botanical and nutrient factors that help maintain normal cardiovascular function.

Some of the studies on garlic have demonstrated the increase in heart function by increasing oxygen supply in the heart and improving blood circulation in the heart's blood vessels.

Another ingredient of Kolestrim is Pau d' Arco, a strong antioxidant that helps the body cope with oxidative stress. Kolestrim is available at Mercury Drugstores and all leading drugstores nationwide.

Annual convention

THE PHILIPPINE Academy of Pediatric Pulmonologists Inc. will hold its 13th Annual Convention in Cagayan de Oro City on April 5 and 6.

The organizing committee has prepared a quite comprehensive two-day conference that will present the updates and recent developments on common pediatric respiratory problems and selected conditions in critical care as well as review and strengthen the members professional competency in basic radiology and therapeutic interventions commonly used in pediatric respiratory care.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 897-8425 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 897-8425
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6872354 ☎ 6872366 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5224406 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS

The Widest Reaching Classifieds

RATES

P245 per column centimeter
P75 per line
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINES

for reservations / cancellations / corrections

Mondays to Saturdays	Sundays
12:00 noon	12:00 noon
Day before publication	every Thursday

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

MEDICAL

PHYSICIAN/SURGEON

RAPID Tx VD-STD
Ex. SWEAT PIMPLES KELOID
ALLERGY WARTS SKIN PEEL
15 Annapolis Greenhills
Call 7276124 - 25 9am-7pm

VDSTD Skin Clinic Rapid Tx Comp Lab Tel. 8175071 Matrinco 2178 P. Tamo Makati

GARMA CLINIC
VD SPECIALIST
VD GONORRHEA, WARTS SYPHILIS, AIDS, HERPES
CHILDREN, ADULT CIRCUMCISION
Painless, Bloodless
SKIN DISEASES
BOLITAS, BUMPS
COMPLETE LABORATORY
Garma Bldg., No. 8 Purdue St., Cubao, Q.C.
OPEN 8 AM to 5 PM MON. to SAT.
TEL. NO. 4392706/9139474

PERSONAL

CONSTRUCTION/ DESIGN

Build Design Renovate
Hi-tech&Fast 0920-6382331
email:conhightech@yahoo.com

We Const., Renov.
House & Bldg. w/n Ur Budget
240-50-83 • 0920-3642037

COSMETOLOGY

PINK Nips / Lips / Cheeks Cream P800 0918-9235216

Whtening Pills P1500 60caps 4545667 ; 09189235216

MASSAGE

02-3233269 BEST BOYS

600 AKHIN MASGE 8347357

Alternative Therapy 8327363

BEAUTIE'S MASSAGE
MLA:8857973 CEBU: (032) 2562187

BOY'S MASSAGE
MLA:4587993 CEBU: (032) 2593809

Candy 8971506;09212085309

Karisma Massage 4215996

MASSAGE 8547144 VICTOR

MR. UNIVERSE MASSAGE
1157 Quezon Ave. 410-1259

★ Mr BODY PHYSIQUE ★
11A Kamias QC 4350978

MY GUYZ 0927-4693728

Reflex&Swedish 09277911652 Al

RELAXING MASSAGE 8978214

THAI Msge Lic 0921-7569278

THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE
752-0018

Vermont Place 562-9746

REFLEXOLOGY

CHRIS or BOBBIE 8548556

★★ FGRC 4127758 ★★

HOME 4 REFLEX
472-8833 / 0928-3435692

I-spa Ctland 9 Mkt 8160151

•Wizard Massage 4213197•

HOUSEHOLD

Good Maids 4358404/4333132

TRUSTED MAID, YAYA 5781796

HOUSEHOLD JOBS

A'A MAID & YAYA 4386920

ALL ARND YAYA 4377986

ANGEL MAIDS 4213253

HI PAY MAID, YAYA 732-67-50

Best Maid Yaya Boy 438-4809

DIRECT MAIDS,YAYA, INT'L COOK 7269060

Hardworking Maids 421-3828

Help Agency 5328376 • 5322971

MAIDS w/ NBI Ref 4392490

NEED MAIDS 09155544777 / 4325125

Need Maids 2331613 0920-2473191

BEST MAIDS 8294261

TRAINED MAIDS w/NBI 4398468

Trusted Maids Yaya Boy 7572089

Yaya, Cook H'maid 8957507

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

PERSONAL

CONSULTING SERVICES

IMMIGRATION AUSTRALIA
ELPIDIO JNR. BAUTISTA
Registered Migration Agent-MARN 0002606
Tel. No. (02) 931-4046 or (02) 951-0180
Cell Phone – 0915-4013817
Email: elpidioj@tpg.com.au

HOUSEHOLD

LIPAT BAHAY

•731-6833•LIPAT

L-BAHAY 9206784 4540520

Cheap 9260424/09272207959

P1200/TRIP 742-14-57

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

COMMERCIAL

PASAY

2 Adjacent Condo Units Sommerset Twr 1 Leveriza St., Pasay City Nr DLSU & SM / H.P. Contact Grace at 551-3686 Ofc.Hrs. or 0917-8172839

OTHER AREAS

206 m² front of Antipolo Church 0917-8217106

COMML/RESDL

MANILA

Nr UST 250m² P8M 0917-5213838

PASIG

OPEN SELLING ORTIGAS AV MALAYAN PLAZA STUDIO 1,2,3BR Visit & Ready 300m² Wst Triangle 929-8376/1969

QUEZON CITY

KATIPUNAN Ext Coml 1200m² P9,500/m² 09189235216

Open selling Ortigas Ave Malayan Plaza Studio 1,2,3BR come visit & rdy 300m² West Triangle9298376

HOUSE & LOT

LAS PINAS

LAS PINAS CITY TERMS 5245853

P1.1M 2br 2Stry 805-4686

MAKATI

MKT NR AYALA
BnewTwnhse/3stry/3br/2 1/2tb/grge P3.720M up 8903461 loc 34

MANDALUYONG

MANDALUYONG House &Lot; LA 300SQM FA 240SQM 5 Bedrooms; 1 den; 1 maid's room; 4 toilets / baths; 2-car garage. CALL CYNTHIA 532-4895

MANDALUYONG NR SHAW BnewTwnhse,3stry/3br/3-4tb/mdsrm/1-2grge P3.655M up 8903461

PARANAQUE

8 Vatican, Merville, Pque 4BR Up&Down 31/2TB w/den 3crgrge Call Darius / Jen 8247226 / 09178739397

PASIG

Capitolyo 6BR 16M 631-3496

QUEZON CITY

RUSH CORINTHIAN FRONT PARK NICE & ELEGANT 4BR MUST SEE TO APPRECIATE T - 8894796;6475 6337601-03

SAN JUAN

2STRY 5CAR P6M nrGHILLS 5623531 / 0917-5272166

For Rent w/ option To Buy within 1 year Behind Paras Beach Resort Camiguin Island T-(088)387-9159 / 387-9517

BULACAN

STA MARIA 46 sqm thru P-IBIG P3,203 M/A 0921-7377851

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

PERSONAL

CONSULTING SERVICES

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

CAVITE

AYALA WESTGROOVE PH4 BRAND NEW HOUSE 313sqm lot 412sqm • fronting Kids Groove Clubhaus playgrnd & swimming pool. 5277616 • 0920-9503228 luk 4 Violy

SINGLE • DETACH Units near San Lazaro Call 962-5258

VARIOUS AREAS

LA MIRASOL
Nr San Beda, Taytay
H&L/Lot only; Easy terms
Crestview Homes
Thru Pag-ibig 2BR2TB
P75th down, Easy terms
Pasig Greenpark
LA200 FA130 bungalow
2car 3BR WT - P3.5M
Marikina Townhse
LA120 FA70 P1.2M
Country STATELAND
6340369 / 6373082

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

1.1M C5 Nr The Fort
10T/mo. or 4Yrs. No Int. or 10% D.P. LIPAT AGAD 2-4BR 15min Fr Mktl 0917-6313226

NEAR SHAW BLVD
BnewTwnhse/3stry/3br/3-4tb/mdsrm/1-2grge. P3.655M up 8903461

MKTI CNDO 2.8M
Nr Rockwell RFO 2BR 2TB FA78m² w/pkg 0917-8991581

Oriental Gardens Studio 45.5m² 2.7&up Bnew 0920-3843962

MANILA

Bnew T'hses nr DLSU-Taft Ave LA45-48Sm 1-2Car P4.7M UP 562-3531/0917-5272166

SN ANDRES MANILA Bnew Twnhse/3stry/3br/3tb/grge P3.492M up 8903461 loc 34

MANDALUYONG

CONDO, BNEW, 09192189817

Rush Bnew Penthse
Overlooking Wack2x Golf
#8 Wackwack Condo
4BR w/TB 2veranda fully furn 310m² 3parking slots
•NEGOTIABLE•
0920-9216122 Bing

PASAY

55m² 1BR semi furn facing Roxas Blvd P1.8M 4267915

PASIG

Luxurious Great Loc. Ortigas Ctr 941-5641/0927-3925928

SAN JUAN

RUSH SALE
CONDO UNIT
P2.4M w/ 2 Bedrooms, Toilet & Bath at Quadrillon Mansion, M. Paterno St. & N. Domingo, San Juan. Call Reynold CP# 09174327579

Beautiful Penthse 255m² + Park + R'deck 3BR 4TB Exclnt loc. GHills Avail. for Urgent Sale P13M Call 2977534

QUEZON CITY

110m² 3BR3TB newly reno P1,850M w/ garage 436-1294

5Yr to 2 Eastwood City 634-1212

Brandnew 5BR4TB
18 Mahabagin Street
9132701 / 09189356366

CUBAO Condo 1.5M 9126976

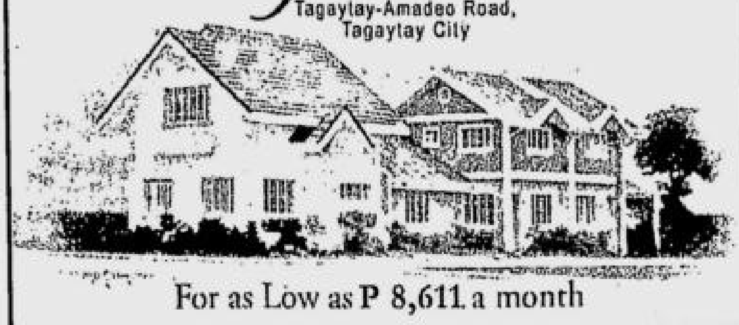
REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

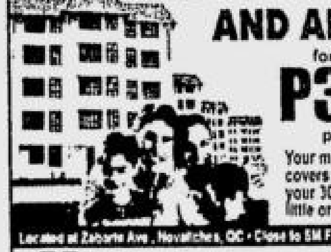
Avalable thru installment & Pag IBIG

Tagaytay GreenVille
Tagaytay-Amadeo Road,
Tagaytay City



For as Low as P 8,611 a month
Call us 872-9982 •805-2310 • 893-4207 • 871-8318
DEVELOPED BY Casimiro Development CORPORATION
MARKETING MANAGER Forte Realty CORPORATION www.forterealty.com
HLURB LTS No. *1319-R4A-04-03

MORE VALUE
Now Ready for Occupancy!
SMILE CITIHOMES AND ANNEX
for as Low as
P3,274 per month*
Your monthly amortization covers the full amount of your 30-sqm condo unit with little or no equity added



Located at Zabarte Ave., Novaliches, QC • Close to SM Fairview & Robinson's Big R
PHINMA PROPERTY HOLDINGS CORP
812-PPHC (7742)
0917-812-PPHC (7742)
0922-812-PPHC (7742)
Lead Brokers Reach Out Realty 983-1804
Forte Realty: 830-0372 • Concorde Realty: 427-7720
Welcome Realty: 413-3313 • Boomland Realty: 817-9650

CONDO/TWNHSE

QUEZON CITY

CONDO/TWNHSE

QUEZON CITY

JUBILEE VILLAS
P540,000.00 Down Payment
Celebrate Life
Create Happy Memories

21 units SOLD OUT / 2 units READY FOR OCCUPANCY

Top Quality Townhouses 2 or 3 bedrooms, attic, living room with powder room, dining room, kitchen, 2 T&B, maid's room w/T&B, laundry / storage area, 1 or 2-car garage, Overhead Water Tank, swimming pool
LA: 64 -70 sqm
GFA: 135 sqm. approx
INDIVIDUAL LOT TITLE

Our prices are HALF the usual condominium prices.
Easy payment terms *Discount for cash sale
Bank/In-House Financing avlble for qualified buyers
We will customize your payment terms.
Licensed Brokers are welcomed.
Come & view our model unit
90 Banlat Road, Tandang Sora, Quezon City

Exclusive Marketing Manager
ZITRO REAL ESTATE
HLURB License #04012

For inquiries, please call
818-2781 / 751-5472
0919-6745430
Email: jubvilla@info.com.ph
www.jubileevillas.com

CONDO/TWNHSE

QUEZON CITY

CAYLABNE
Cavite Beach Front
Overlookng Corregidor Island
721-5288/0917-8909051 Gee

HIGHEST CONDO In QC 1&2br Penthse2.5-7M 09189235216

LOT

Brgy. Kaybagal Tagaytay 2,500sq.m. Covered 4 Titles Call 7225614/15

JUNCTION ANTIPOLO Rd - Theresa Rd and Rd to Solid Cement. Call 7225614 9,725 sq.m.

PROVINCIAL

★100% TAGAYTAY ★
240m²-up 3,568/m² 134T D/P 6 Mos to pay 6T Mo. nr Taal Vista 6609372

LAS PINAS

AYALA SOUTHVALE-SONERA 500SQM up 0917-8997547

MARIKINA

Tangerine St 1578m² 0917-5213838

LAGUNA

SOUTH PT. 180m²
Nr Cabuyao Exit 9125847

QUEZON CITY

CrestaVrde 5.5t 044-6627285

EDSA 1898m² 20T 044-6627285

RESIDENTIAL nr UP Ateneo 204m² to 816m² P8,500/m² 09189235216

LOT

OTHER AREAS

HOUSE and LOT
FOR SALE with TITLE
Inclusive of: Guard House – Force Concrete With Coconut Business equipments and Water Pump / Warehouse
Location :Barangay San Jose/ Santa Cruz, Laguna
Size : 12,056 (square meters)
PRICE: 9 million (negotiable)
Contact Dan Ramilo / Josie Ramilo
899-0611 / 0919-7508840

QUEZON CITY

RUSH! QC LOTS
•LA VISTA SUBD LA 1,275m²
•EXCLUSIVE PINNACLE
Ayala Hillside LA1,213m²
Overlooooking Capitol Golf
Lot Area 1,213m²
•NEGOTIABLE•
0920-9216122 Bing

CAVITE

Imus Agnaldo Hw 0917626182

VERDANA BCR 2ADJ. @ 208SQ 11T NEG 8279039/09192035932

MEMORIAL LOT

Heritage Park 0917-5213838

LOY-MK FLY EST.@2.5M 8386645

LOY-PQ/MKN 8 SLOTS 09164834182

FARM/FISHPEN/ RAWLANDS

RUSH! Piggery Sta Maria Bulacan 2884m² Tel.4358087

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

FOR LEASE

MANILA

STUDIO, 1BR ROBINSON FAURA 5642622

COMMERCIAL/ RESIDENTIAL

ALABANG

SPACE FOR RENT - 8621443-

HOUSE

QUEZON CITY

W. PLAINS SUBD. #10 Cecilleville St. 5BR 5TB 4CG 6330164

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

CITILND8 1BR P9K 5623531

CTL8 FF 1br 13T 0917-8470918

MAKATI AVE 9T 25m², 10T 35m², 15T 50m² F/F 4578041

MKT 2BR 1TB 60m² P13.5 STUDIO 35m² P8.8 PRKG/NODUE 8906374

NEW STUDIO/Com 2BR 6.5Tup 1672 Dian St. Mktl 843-9418/09189390355 Rose

MANILA

BAYBRIDGE HOME NR NAGTAHAN BLK2 LOT2 7361925

PARANAQUE

Chateau Elysee Bicutan 2BR nr SM&Aport 12T 09178987644

QUEZON CITY

BRAND NEW 3BR maids rm 3TB 116sqm 1st St. cor. #8 Gilmore Ave. New Mla. QC 28K Violy/Tintin 5277616

NICE CONDO: 3BR, 3TB Maids Room w/TB, Secured 913-7267 • 913-7270 -Roy

NICE CONDO: 3BR, 3TB Maids Room w/TB, Secured 913-7267 • 913-7270 -Roy

Twnhse 3br 2tb Fairview 11T 952-4254 • 936-9282

APARTMENT

MAKATI

2BR Apt. New 895-1662

3BR 2CR Big 8980435

Up & Down 5T T870-85-41

MANILA

1 & 2BR STA. ANA 5634007

MANDALUYONG

2 Units-Hiway Hills 8212091

QUEZON CITY

2BR DUPLX 5TH nr TSora Flyover 932-4687

7T scnd Fema Rd Proj8- 9262180

Nr Sm City 0919-5537648

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

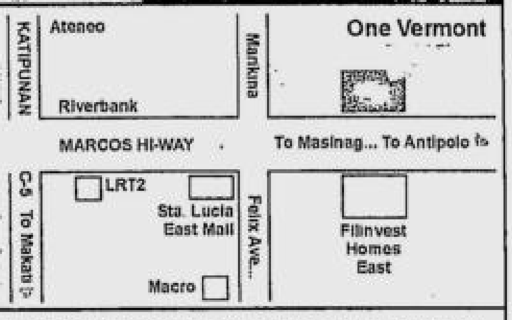
REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

ONE VERMONT EXECUTIVE PLACE

Only 10 Distinctly Design Units Left!!!

OPEN HOUSE
Saturday & Sunday

*Summer Promo**
- RENT to OWN
- 10% DP move-in
- As low as P 28,218.75
- DP at 0% Interest payable in 3 Years*



SINGLE DETACHED UNITS READY FOR OCCUPANCY
Near Ateneo * Mirriam * UP

Contact Us
The Marketing Arm:
FMPNI
FIRST MANDALUYONG PROPERTY NETWORK INC.
Tel: 668-2126 *7276915*
09175226950
Email: fmpni@yahoo.com

OWNER/ DEVELOPER :
JELP REAL ESTATE DEV. CORP.
Mobile No. 0917-5172325
HLURB License to Sell No. 06232
WELCOME BROKERS

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

APARTMENT

SAN JUAN

9 J Eustaquio Alg N.Domingo 2BR 820-2481/825-0342

WAREHOUSE/ FACTORY

Cubao fabshp P25T 725-7342

Cubao wkshop P25T 8974697

Cubao wrkshp P25T 8974697

QC Whse 350/600/420m²
24hr sec. high wall
individual roll up door,wide pkg space, acesible 4563243

ROOM & BOARD

Apartel Manila 7836781

BF P'QUE 8275345 P200!!

•FURNISH PASAY 8872865•

MAKATI

MKT. CONDO P2.8 UP NICE 8906331

BEDSPACE

Resdn'l/Furnish 2PerRm Male Single Bed T897-3770

BUSINESS RENTAL

BURGUNDY PLAZA KATIPUNAN Q.C. FRNT ATENEO FA50 m² (res) 75&110m² (ideal for SPA, GYM) 9289541 / 7361925

GALAS QC Front of Market T - 410-1406 / 0927-2859567

Nr Trabajo Mrkt Samp. Mla 0917-8906317 • 749-7119

LOAN & MORTGAGE

BUSINESS . DOCTOR 524-3197

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR RENT

COMMERCIAL/ RESIDENTIAL

260m² w/5 Offices 5487 Boyle St, Palanan Mktl • 804-0067

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR RENT

CONDO/TWHSE/ FOR SALE/RENT

Makati Manila RFO Condo Sale Rent 09176266516

APARTMENT FOR SALE/RENT

APT 4 SALE/RENT 4500-7000 Bedspace 1500 M/F Call AJ 5610960 / 09167144320 • 09204136412

GOOD APARTMNT 2BR 1 T&B GRGE 11T CALL 09153202799

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

BMW

316I 97 09192393494

HONDA

'92 HONDA Hatchback 09185209087

ISUZU

BIGHORN 00 09192393494

ISUZU Elf close Alum van Call Lyn or Gle 376-2246

MITSUBISHI

'05 Adventure GLX BNew 135T D/P or 10,568/mo 0917-6458587

GLXI 95" WELL MAINTAINED 2727813 Fairview QC

L300 92MODEL 130T L300 94MODEL 150T 09209612318

NISSAN

01 Frontier 4x2 55Tkm M/T 0919-8707359 • 0919-3552515

98 NISSAN SENTRA FE 1ST OWNED 0917-8260874

SPECIAL CARS

PEUGEOT 206cc Blue A/T Convertible Brand Now 2Dr P1.4M • 0917-7922966

VOLVO

S40 98 600T 09192393494

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

OTHER CAR BRANDS

Pajero Safari Trooper Terrano Surf Delica Largo Town Lite-Hi Ace Fargo Serena estima Elf Canter etc Call 9120647;09178342020

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CARS FOR RENT

Van Coaster 6313496 0919-3220871

CAR VANS 929-2811 414-2877

CarsVans CoasterBus 422-9296

CARS/VANS/BRIDAL 8969956

Cheap Van Rental 9330311

L300 VAN 8738947 09163443087

STAREX'05 MB100 9483535

P800/L3 9136710 / 4333682

RENT A VAN
0917-5444721 / 6424405

REVO w/driver 9272821

ROLFE MULTILINES
RENT A VAN
w/ aromatheraphy
751-0491•0917-8536992

STAREX URVAN REVO 8257135

TOYCO CARS
Udrive W/driver, All kinds: Cars, Vans, SUV • Mla.(02) 800-6595 802-3021 • Cebu (032) 345-1802

VAN 4 HIRE 09194024987

VAN 4 HIRE 9298376

CAR LOAN

1.5% Car Loan 5344441

1.5% CARLOAN 373-6519

1.5% CARLOAN 788-0361

1.5% Easy Car Loan 4112547/48

1.5% Easy Car Loan 3748765

1.5% Easy Carloan 7815352/55

1.5% Fast Car Loan 6560140

1.5% w/oTaking Car 3650974/75

1.5% w/oTaking Car 7228942-43

•1HR Fast Car Loan 7125202•

HOKEI SUBIC CORPORATION & PHILIPPINE
#40 Golden Future St., cor. Aim High Avenue
SBIP Phase I SBFZ, Olongapo

We are in need of the following positions:

MOLDING ENGINEER HEAD
Male at 30 and above. A graduate of any 5 years Engineering courses in any prestigious Universities in Manila. Have a 2 to 5 years related experience in Manufacturing firm. Knowledge in Conventional Machine. Can speak Mandarin, Fokien. Should be fluent in English. Can work in a minimum supervision and willing to work overtime.

MOLD DESIGN SUPERVISOR
Male/Female 27 and above. A graduate of Mold Designing. Experience in Tool and Die and Technology in any mold manufacturer. Actual experience in EDM repairs technology. Can speak Mandarin, Fokien. Should be fluent in English. Can work in a minimum supervision and willing to work overtime.

SOURCING DIRECTOR
Male, 35 and above. A graduate of any Commerce course. Experience in ERP Technology. Experience in International Trade monitoring, preferably in a Chinese/Taiwanese company. Experience in Materials Classification, Aggressive. Can speak Mandarin, Fokien. Should be fluent in English. Can work in a minimum supervision and willing to work overtime.

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CARS FOR RENT

ABC RENT A CAR
HI-ACE • STAREX
L300 • CRV • REVO
HONDA • VIOS • ALTIS • LYNX • CRLA
MLA: 536-8822 • 303-9789
Q.C.: 426-2278 • 426-4084

CAR LOAN

2% w/o taking car 7880183-84
2% w/o Taking Car 7262780
2% w/oTaking Car 8959454
2% w/oTaking Car 8870490/95
2% w/oTaking Car 8966630/33
2% w/oTaking Car 7221021
2% w/oTaking Car 3732081/82
2% w/out taking car 6567685
2% w/out taking car 5315577

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

BILLIARDS

26T New Compt Sr Impld 7767507
Sale/Rental/Servce 8014494

BUY/SELL

PRUDENTIAL PLANS 7137284

HEALTH & BEAUTY

Mesolipo Dissolve Products Manila/Davao 0921-3147611

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

YAMAHA GRAND & UPRIGHT
ELITE PIANO CENTER
Almost New:TERMS-7213124

PETS

COLLIE PUPS 2M 645-8344
DACHS PUP 09175272949
DOG TRAINER 0919-3419012
•PUGS•WRINKLED 3725231
Stud GrtDane 09176266182

WANTED TO BUY

Buy Scrap Carton 916-2278

"PROFESSIONAL & CREDIBLE"
LOW 5% INTEREST
BUY • SELL • PAWN
SWISS WATCHES
AGENCIA de MAKATI-4587017
SECONDO AYALA CENTER-8940282
OPEN MONDAY TO SATURDAY

A NAME YOU CAN TRUST!
MANILA WATCH EXCHANGE
BUY • SELL • PAWN
ROLEX+OTHERS
& OTHER SWISS WATCHES
DIAMONDS / JEWELRY
HI-APPRAISAL/FAST CASH
REPAIR/POLISH ANY WATCH
T#804-0484 • 834-2886

WE BUY AT HIGH PRICE
ROLEX
5646593 5897041
5633742 0917-8473744

A well-established agency operating nationwide needs:

TYPIST / STENOGRAPHER

- 25 YEARS OLD AND ABOVE
- WITH EXPERIENCE, GRADUATE OF FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE COURSE
- WITH TYPING SPEED OF 45 WPM AND STENO AT 60 WPM

Qualified applicants may apply in writing or in person with recent photo at:

CATALINA SECURITY AGENCY
626 G. ARANETA AVE.,
QUEZON CITY
(In front of Funeraria Paz)

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

WANTED TO BUY

WE BUY AT HIGH PRICE
ROLEX
5646593 5897041
5633742 0917-8473744

WE BUY
JEWELRY, DIAMONDS
ROLEX, PAWNTICKETS
& Other Swiss Watches Fast Cash
09163422208 • 4216655

BUYING ROLEX
Other WATCHES, BEST PRICE
0917-8142309 • 7269687
7220433 • 4123543

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF LOSS

NOTICE is hereby given that Stock Cert. No. 46077 issued by Hi-Cement Corp. for 5,000 shares of Mr. John Chan has been reported lost. If no contest received new certificates will be issued.
(PDI-April 2, 9 & 16, 2005)

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

RTW CONSIGN 3738821

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

L88EDC' has TRANSFORMED & CHANGED the lives of many professionals into GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURS. www.L88edc.com

NEED SIDELINE? EXTRA CASH P/F P20K/mo. #3762642

HR • ACCTG • BUSS COURSES P/F up to P20K/mo. #3762642

SHARES OF STOCK

Celebrity Sports Club
Share of Stock P200,000
Call Marilyn at
417-2944 / 0917-8918490

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MALE

WANTED IMMEDIATELY W/ EXP. PIZZA MAKER LOOK FOR MS. PHOLIE 8072959/8257193

MALE/FEMALE

10 English Teachers, Web Prog'r F 27 max w/colctr exp David 09197247738

Account Executive for Uniform Co. 912-1168

BSP•BSN•PT•MT
Any Allied Health Grads up to P45T/ Mol 8927828

CAREGIVERS 3026893

Lic Pharmacist 6915513 • 6917691

SALES REP w/ Salary & Commission 0917-8398865 & 915-1390 to 96

Wanted Call Center English Teacher Fax Resume to 771-1800 09217764335

MARKETING CONVERGENCE

PHILIPPINE MARKETING ASSOCIATION

presents

THE POWER OF BUSINESS ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOR BETTER REVENUES AND PROFITS

DATES : April 27, 28, 29, 2005
TIME : 1PM - 6PM
VENUE : Dusit Hotel Nikko, Makati

DESCRIPTION : This learning opportunity creates the advantage of Business Entrepreneurial Marketing as a strategic and competitive paradigm in your company's success. It aims to establish a creative approach towards managing the company resources as a business entrepreneur - where every element is well planned and utilized towards bottomline productivity.

TARGET PARTICIPANTS : A must attend seminar for any marketing and sales professional who aims to be more productive and cost effective! Others who can benefit includes brand, corporate communications, advertising, business development, managing directors and senior officers of the organization and SMEs/ business owners who would like to adopt entrepreneurial marketing

SEMINAR OBJECTIVES : At the end of the seminar, participants would carry a better understanding and assimilation of an "entrepreneurial" spirit in the conduct of their tasks and marketing/sales goals - meeting both efficiency and effectiveness aspects of performance.

METHODOLOGY : lectures, exercises, cases and in-class activities to ensure the dynamics of learning as presented towards the changing business environment. Resources speakers are respected specialists in their field and have been sought-after entrepreneurial consultants who would be sharing their expertise and experience on the various subject matters of the seminar.

SEMINAR PROGRAM

DAY 1 : April 27, 2005 (Wednesday)

Introductory Session : 1pm - 1.30pm
Business Entrepreneurship And Your Company : Power To Succeed
Session Chair : Mr. Ricardo de Vera, Seminar Director
AGORA Marketing Awards Head - Entrepreneurship
Business Trainor/Consultant - PTTC/DTI

Session 1 : 1.30pm - 3:30pm
Critical Lessons From Entreprenuers In Business
Speaker : Mr. Ricardo de Vera
AGORA Marketing Awards Head - Entrepreneurship
Business Trainor/Consultant - PTTC/DTI

Session 2 : 3:45pm - 5:30pm
The Changing Horizon Of Business Marketing/ Sales
What Is Happening/Why Are Traditions-Practices Failing
Speaker : to be announced

BRIEFING OF FINAL PROJECT : 5.45pm - 6pm

DAY 2 : April 28, 2005 (Thursday)

Link-Up Session : 1pm - 1.30pm
Session 3 : 1.30pm - 3:30pm
Understanding The Tool Of Business Entrepreneurship :
The Diagnostic Business Process System (Marketing/Sales)
Speaker : Mr Raul Rodriquez
Senior Consultant

Session 4 : 3:45pm - 5:30pm
The Framework And Discipline Of Managing The Marketing And Sales For Improved Bottomlines
Speaker : to be announced

BRAINSTORMING : 5:30pm - 6pm

DAY 3 April 29, 2--5 (Friday)

Link-Up Session : 1pm - 1.30pm

Session 5 : 1.30pm - 3.30pm
An Integrated Marketing/Sales IT For The Business Entrepreneur In a convergent market
Speaker : Mr. Michael Limueco
IT Practicioner/Specialist
Business Associate Trainor

PREPARATION/PRESENTATION OF CASES : 3.45pm - 5.30pm

For inquiries, please call up the
Philippine Marketing Association Secretariat
c/o Ms. Lydia Marñas
Tel. Nos. 634-5722; 634-4890; 638-1451
E-mail: lydiamm@edsamail com.ph

FILOMENA M. AÑONUEVO

of Canada & Las Piñas City

passed away in the Grace of our Lord on March. 31, 2005 at the age of 91.

Her bereaved children, **Mellet & Mely Casimiro, Nito & Letty Padilla, Vance & Lita Noriega, Jun & Lucy Salaver, Eddie & Naty Yap, Boyet & Josie Añonuevo**, grandchildren, great grandchildren & other relatives request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Funeraria Filipinas Real Street, Pamplona, Las Piñas City.

Cremation will be on Tuesday, April 5, 2005 after the 2:00 pm Mass at Christ the King Parish, Pamplona, Las Piñas City.

Our Beloved

Antonio "Nene" Sodusta Salas

President, Western Institute of Technology
Assistant District Governor and Past President, Rotary Club of Iloilo
Trustee, Kahublagan Sang Panimalay Foundation, Inc.

peacefully joined our Lord on March 30, 2005 at the age of 61.

Please join his bereaved family : wife Jessica; children: Je-an Therese, Marie Antoinette and Franz Anthony; and grandchildren Monica Lei and Kyne Andrew in prayers.

His remains lie in state at the Western Institute of Technology (WIT) Auditorium, New Site, La Paz, Iloilo City from April 1 to 3, 2005 and will be transferred to Salas Residence at 25 Magsaysay Village, La Paz, Iloilo City on April 4 at 4:00 p.m.

Interment will be on April 7, 2005 at the Christ the King Memorial Park after 2:00 o'clock mass at St. Clement's Church, La Paz, Iloilo City.

Please omit flowers. Offerings may be made to "Antonio Salas - Environment Lecture Fund" (ASELF) . Official receipts will be issued by Kahublagan Sang Panimalay Foundation, Inc.

> *Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust our God, trust also in Me. In my Father's house are many rooms. I am going to prepare a place for you. John 14: 1-2*

> **"I am the way, the truth and the life.**
> **No one comes to the Father except through Me."**
> *John 14:6*

CDO lowers prices of its canned meats

TO HELP the Filipino people cope up with the rising cost of living in the country, one of the country's largest meat processors has announced that it would lower the prices of its canned meat products for 50 days.

"As a showcase of our corporate social responsibility, CDO-Foodsphere Inc is implementing a three-percent price off in all pack sizes and variants of CDO Karne Norte, corned beef, meat loaf and beef loaf despite the increases in the cost of production brought about by a number of factors," said Jonathan Bendicion, senior marketing manager of CDO-Foodsphere Inc.

Bendicion said the price cutoff will cover 12 canned products of CDO-Foodsphere sold at different supermarkets, grocery stores, market stalls and sari-sari stores nationwide from March 10 to April 30 this year.

Under the promo, consumers can avail of the discount if they purchase any of the following participating products: CDO Karne Norte, CDO Chunkisado, CDO Corned Beef, CDO Meat Loaf and CDO Beef Loaf.

The company said it is slashing the prices of its products to give the Filipino masses, who account for the biggest share of its market, a reprieve from the rising prices of commodities caused by the upward adjustments in transportation fares, electricity rates, water bills, highway tolls and oil prices.

According to the National Statistics Office, the country's inflation rate hit 8.5 percent in February and economists say this may further climb in the coming months as the government prepares to implement a two-percentage point increase in the value added tax (VAT).

Bendicion said the singular action of CDO-Foodsphere is a response to the government's plea for the private sector to make available to the Filipino people high-quality and affordable food products.

He said that while other companies have the tendency to increase their prices to recoup expected losses from the impending implementation of the new VAT rate and the government's plan to raise the tariff wall on imported tinplates, CDO-Foodsphere is doing the opposite for the sake of the Filipino consumers, who are responsible for transforming the company from a small enterprise into a vibrant player in the multi-billion meat processing industry.

"At a time of financial constraints, CDO-Foodsphere is doing its share in ensuring food security for the nation by ensuring the availability of high-quality, yet affordable canned meat products from large supermarkets in the city to the smallest sari-sari store in the most remote barangays in the country," Bendicion said.

He said that because of the low prices of CDO products, poor Filipinos who could not afford the atrociously expensive canned meat products in the early 1990s now have access to such meat products at any time. He noted that CDO products have a three-year shelf life and do not require refrigeration.

Aside from the regular 100-gram karne norte, other CDO products that have discounted prices beginning March 10 include the 100-gram H&S karne norte, which will be retailed at P11.60; 150-gram karne norte, P17.40; 175-gram karne norte, P20.30; 260-gram karne norte, P31.

During the promotional period, the 175-gram Chunkisado will be retailed at P22.30 a can, down from the original price of P22.90. The retail price of 150-gram corned beef will be slashed from P19.90 a can to P19.40 while the price of 175-gram corned beef will go down from P22.90 to P22.30.

A can of 100-gram meat loaf will be sold at P8.70, or 20 centavos lower than its original price of P8.90 while the price of the 150-gram meat loaf will be reduced from P12.50 to P12.10.

The retail price of a 100-gram beef loaf will go down from P8.90 a can to P8.70 while the selling price of a 150-gram beef loaf will be cut down from P12.50 to P12.10 a can.

INFOMAN
INFORMATION MANAGERS, INC
QAD
PASSION FOR MANUFACTURING

QAD APPOINTS INFOMAN AS DISTRIBUTOR

QAD Inc, a leading provider of enterprise applications for global manufacturers, recently announced that Information Managers Inc (Infoman) has been appointed as a QAD distributor and has added QAD's manufacturing solution, MFG/PRO, to its product portfolio. The partnership will allow Infoman to offer a complete end-to-end solution for the manufacturing industries that will complement Infoman's existing Progress solutions. Signing the contract are (from left): Danny Yao, president, Information Managers Inc; Bernard Yu, CEO, Information Managers Inc; Foo Chuen Yong, country manager, QAD South Asia; and Ong Chee Hian, regional sales manager, QAD Singapore Pte. Ltd.

SINGAPORE AIRLINES

EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE IN 2006

Come 2006, Singapore Airlines (SIA) will be the first airline in the world to operate the A380, and the world will be invited to experience a travel concept that is different from what it is today. Photo shows Chew Choon Seng, Singapore Airlines' chief executive officer with the airline's Singapore girls.

HOLCIM BAGS 4 AWARDS

The Philippine Mine Safety and Environment Association (PMSEA), organizers of the 51st Annual National Mine Safety and Environmental Conference, recently honored Holcim Philippines Inc (formerly Union Cement Corp) with four major awards in a ceremony held at the Camp John Hay Hall in Baguio City. For its adherence to the highest standards in mining and environmental safety, Holcim Phils was conferred the 'Best Mining Forest Award' in the non-metallic mining category. The company's operations in Bulacan likewise won the 'Zero Loss Time Accident Award', while the La Union operations received the 'Platinum Award for PMIEA - Presidential Mineral Industry Environmental Award'. The La Union operations team also won 2nd place for 'Safest Cement Plant' award. Holcim Phils Lugait plant was also given a plaque of appreciation for its active participation in Safety Network Action Program (SNAP), which provided invaluable assistance at the height of a rescue operation in Leyte. Adrian Cruz of the Bulacan plant, meanwhile, was named 'Best Safety Inspector'. Photo shows Holcim Phils SVP for manufacturing Alex Vonow and La Union plant vice president for operations James Descallar (third and fourth from left) receive the PMIEA Platinum Award from BMG director Horacio Ramos and PMSEA president Ernie Rodriguez (first and second from left).

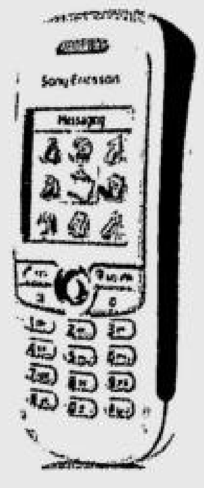
THE SOUL SISTERS ACT

Café Lupe, in cooperation with Golden Earth, signs Ara Mina, Marissa Sanchez and Jessa Zaragoza for an upcoming concert on May 20 entitled 'The Soul Sisters Act'. Also present are (from left): Dingdong Avanzado (musical director), Alvin Carranza and Emilie Cruz (Cafe Lupé), Jo Cedula and Walden Coronel (Golden Earth). For booking and reservations call 896-3166, 896-3076 or 890-3319.

ProductFILES

Gift sets for graduates

NEXT generation trailblazers must have power and precision tools in their journey to success. Sony Ericsson and TechnoMarine have partnered to offer this year's graduates special gift sets of mobile phones and timepieces at 25 percent off from now until April 30. The Sony Ericsson J200i, a slim mobile phone for easy talking and messaging, goes with the stylish simplicity of the TechnoMarine TMAXS. The triple band J200i offers themes, wallpapers, calendar and a picture phonebook that can store up to 200 entries. For the TMAXS, white Arabic numerals are beheld from a choice of different colored faces and matching gel straps. This sporty classic is water resistant up to 200 meters. The Sony Ericsson and TechnoMarine gift sets are available in Semicon branches in SM Megamall, SM North Edsa, SM Southmall, The Podium, Power Plant Mall, Cyberone and in the Semicon Showroom, Semicon Centre Bldg, Marcos Highway, Pasig; TechnoMarine in Greenbelt and SM Megamall; and Rafael Jewellery Store in Shangri-La Plaza Mall. For inquiries, call TechnoMarine at 757-3975 or Semicon at 681-4965.



THE SONY Ericsson J200i.

THE Technomarine TMAXS.

Bits Clips

EQ Dry mall tour

VISIT the EQ Dry Baby Soft Baby Cool booth and enjoy a fun-filled day of games and activities for you and your baby. Each booth is full of exciting surprises: free pedia/derma consultation; free diaper changing services; free digital photo card (featuring you and your baby). Your baby can join the Diaper Hakot game and Balloon Pool game or they can just watch kiddie videos at the lounge area. There's also a Redemption booth wherein you can exchange your empty EQ Dry wrappers with cute cow and sheep plates and cups. Plus, get a chance to see funny mommy Candy Pangilinan at the mall tour. EQ Dry mall tour will kick-off on April 2 and 3 at the Festival Mall. Catch other mall tour at the following venues: Gotesco Commonwealth - April 16 and 17, Robinsons Metro East - April 23 and 24, Robinsons Imus - April 30 and May 1, CSI Lucao Citymall - May 14 and 15, Gaisano Ayala Cebu - May 28 and May 29, SM City Iloilo - June 11 and 12, NCCC Mall MAA Davao City - June 25 and 26, Robinsons Ermita - July 16 and 17 and Robinsons Lipa - July 23 and 24.

Spongebob movie premiere

CATCH "The Spongebob Squarepants Movie", Nickelodeon's next attraction this summertime on the big screen. Watch out for the film's exclusive premiere in Manila today at SM Megamall. Dive in and catch the movie in subsequent showings starting April 6. It's a non-stop undersea fun with Spongebob and his dimwitted best friend Patrick Starfish as they embark on an adventure to reclaim King Neptune's stolen crown and save Mr. Krabs' life.

Discover the new school of fitness this summer

TAKE the Intro to Underwater Hockey on April 9 (Saturday) 1 to 4 p.m. at the Army Wellness Center in Fort Bonifacio or on April 16 (Saturday) 1 to 4 p.m. at the La Salle Greenhills swimming pool. Only 120 pesos. Register now. Contact Rey (0917-8144455) or Norman (0918-9423716) to reserve your slots and gear. So put down those weights and snap out of that pose. Grab your swimsuits, keep cool, stay fit and have fun with underwater hockey. To learn more about underwater hockey, visit www.puhc.net.

Have a Happy Feet summer

NOW is the perfect time to shop for a pair of Happy Feet contoured comfort sandals at your nearest SM Department Store. With a single purchase of any pair of Happy Feet sandals, take another pair of Happy Feet sandals from their selected summer specials and get 50 percent off on these items. Sizes and quantities are limited, so best that you shop now for the best selections. For more information, contact Happy Feet at 725-2675 or telefax 723-5105, visit its website at www.happyfeetsandals.com. You may also write at queries@happyfeetsandals.com. Watch out for the opening of their Happy Feet outlet at 197 Wilson Street cor. P. Guevarra San Juan, Metro Manila.

BayanTel summer promo

SPEND one hot summer day at Island Cove Resort for free by just making national direct distance calls from your BayanTel landline. For a minimum of P650 worth of NDD calls to a landline or to a cellphone from April 1 to 30, BayanTel subscribers are entitled to receive a free entrance gift certificate for 3 persons at Island Cove Resort worth P450. To avail, simply present your paid statement of account covering April NDD calls together with a proof of payment or official receipt and any valid ID to any Bayan Center in Metro Manila. The promo is available until June 30, and can be availed by Metro Manila residential subscribers only.

A sweet summer with Globe AutoLoadMAX and Dunkin Donuts

SUMMER is here! And to make sure you won't miss out on gimmicks and vacations with the barkada and relatives, Globe makes sure you'll always be connected with AutoloadMAX which is now available at over 250 Dunkin Donuts outlets nationwide. Enjoy this sunny season's exciting events with constant connectivity and your much-loved pasalubong to boot. Globe presents a sweet summer treat every time you use AutoLoadMAX in participating Dunkin Donut outlets. Every P25 AutoloadMAX reload to your Globe Prepaid or TM phone will entitle you to at least one free Choco Rainbow Ring - the perfect baon as you go off on your summer adventure. The higher the AutoloadMAX load purchased, the more free Rainbow Choco Rings will be given to you for free: P25-P49 AutoloadMAX Load purchase = 1 piece Rainbow Choco Ring; P50-P74 AutoloadMAX Load purchase = 2 pieces Rainbow Choco Rings; P75-P99 AutoloadMAX Load purchase = 3 pieces Rainbow Choco Rings; P100-P124 AutoloadMAX Load purchase = 4 pieces Rainbow Choco Rings; P125-P149 AutoloadMAX Load purchase = 5 pieces Rainbow Choco Rings; P150 AutoloadMAX Load purchase = 6 pieces Rainbow Choco Rings. Truly, AutoloadMAX, with its variable prepaid credit offer from as low as P25 to as high as P150 in increments of P1, is an affordable and much more convenient way to remain connected this summer. AutoloadMAX at Dunkin Donuts today and experience the sweetest summer ever.

Appliances

ANSON APPLIANCE INSTALLMENT SHOWDOWN

Anson Emporium is bringing back its Appliance Installment Showdown at Glorietta Activity Center from April 8 to 18. With bigger and wider selections of appliances, customers can enjoy zero interest installment and lowest rates promo on installment purchases using major credit cards. Big discounts on cash purchases too. Visit them to make your summer cool and complete.

2GO BEYOND LIMITS

Aboitiz freight group, now branded 2GO, recently sponsored the Wellness Revo and as title presenter, adopted The Mall Challenge, The Mall Race, and The Indoor Open Challenge, collectively called '2GO Beyond Limits'. Dubbed as the first corporate intramurals in Cebu, 15 companies competed in three extreme activities - climbing, traversing and rappelling. The three-day event, which was held at the Ayala Center Cebu, coincided with 2GO's brand launch in the Visayas. Photo shows a contestant rappelling at the 2GO Beyond Limits mall challenge held the Ayala Center Cebu. To answer your freight needs, you may visit www.2go.com.ph or call 2GO hotline, (02) 528-7246.

We've added another dignified service to keep the memory of your departed loved ones.

104 years

LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
CREMATORY SERVICES
ON CALL 24 HOURS A DAY
143 G. Araneta Avenue corner Kaliraya Street, Quezon City
Telephone Nos.: 749-3806 to 11 • 712-3001 • 743-6502
743-6505 • 743-6508 • Fax No.: 712-2782

OBITUARIES

THE HERITAGE PARK

"The newest and most modern Funeral Home & Crematory in the country!
Trunk Line: (632) 845-2334 to 38
Direct Line: (632) 845-2440

The Management and Staff of
Webforge Philippines, Inc.
extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of

MANUEL MAGLAQUI CANLAS

Former President & General Manager

He passed away last 30th of March 2005 at the age of 57.

His wife **Helen**, children **Myla** & **Jay** and grandchildren **Jaymes** and **Marydith**, relatives and friends request you to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at San Ramon Funeral Homes in Sta. Rosa, Laguna.

Interment is tentatively scheduled
on Monday, 04 April 2005 – 10:00 a.m.
at the Eternal Crematorium, Biñan, Laguna

I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.
John 14:6

In Loving Memory

On the 27th anniversary of the death of

JOAQUIN MA. "JACKY" DEL ROSARIO

Who passed away on April 3, 1978

Holy Masses will be offered at the ff:

Mary the Queen Church, Greenhills	12:00 NN
Santuario de San Antonio, Forbes Park	4:30 PM

His family and friends request your prayers
for the eternal repose of his soul.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

Always caring... **INQUIRER OBITUARIES**

WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS and bank-to-bank payments

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS: ● Copy of Death Certificate ● Any identification document (I.D.)

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT
MESSAGE OF THANKS
DEATH ANNIVERSARY
REQUIEMS • FREE OBIT DESIGN

"......I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me will live,
even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me, will never die......"
John 11:24-26

GLICERIO T. VILLANUEVA

(of Iloilo and Philam Homes, QC)
was called Home by our Lord
on March 28, 2005 at the age of 80.

We wish to inform our dear relatives and friends that his ashes will be in the Church of the Risen Lord in UP Diliman starting 4pm of Wednesday, April 6, 2005.

Memorial services will take place on April 7 and 8 at 6:30 pm, culminating in a joyful sharing of testimonies.

In lieu of flowers and Mass cards, may we request that he be remembered fondly through a donation to the Portia Villanueva Scholarship Fund.

We miss him dearly-wife EVA, *children* LESLIE & EMMA, CLYDE & ALELI *and* KEN & BELLE, *grandchildren* AILEA, MICHAEL, †PORTIA, CARISSA, ANTHONY *and* CELINE.

"He will wipe away all tears from their eyes.
There will be no more death, no more grief
or crying or pain. The old things have disappeared."
Revelation 21:4

Bank auto loans grew by 6.6% to ₱49.9B in 2004

PHILIPPINE banks' auto loans hit P49.9 billion last year, up 6.6 percent from the previous year, primarily due to aggressive lending by thrift banks.

Thrift banks last year accounted for 71.7 percent of the total loans used to acquire vehicles. About 61.2 percent came from thrift banks which were subsidiaries of other banks and financial institutions, and 10.5 percent from independent thrift banks.

According to data from the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, universal and commercial banks held the remaining 28.3 percent of total loans, of which 26.1 percent came from local institutions.

The BSP yesterday reported that in the fourth quarter last year, auto loans expanded 1.1 percent from P49.4 billion in the third quarter.

As a ratio of total loan portfolio, exclusive of inter-bank loans, auto lending accounted for only 2.9 percent, the same ratio in the third quarter, but slightly higher than the 2.8 percent ratio the previous year.

On the other hand, past due auto loans were kept at 6 percent of total auto loans as of the end of last year, slightly better than the 6.1 percent as of end-September, and 6.3 percent for the whole of 2003.

These past due auto loans represented 1.1 percent of the banking system's total non-performing loans last year.

The thrift bank industry hopes to increase auto lending considering the projected 7-10 percent increase in vehicle sales this year. *Doris C. Dumlao*

Investors urged to go into petrochem

By Abigail L. Ho

THE PHILIPPINE National Oil Co. is bent on reviving the country's petrochemical industry by first focusing on the midstream sector and generating enough demand for ethylene and propylene.

The PNOC is also planning to build a naphtha cracker plant.

Eduardo Mañalac, PNOC president and chief executive, said the state firm, together with the Department of Energy, would also try to drum up investor interest in the petrochemical sector.

"Our role is to encourage the revival of the midstream (sector)," he told reporters. "Once there is demand for ethylene and propylene, we'll start planning how we'll produce the feedstock, either through naphtha or other means."

He said the recent signing of a memorandum of understanding between Singapore firm Pan Pacific Capital Advisors Pte Ltd. and Metro Alliance Holdings and Equities Corp. to jointly undertake the re-commissioning of the Bataan polyethylene plant was a step in the right direction.

This, he said, signaled the revival of the midstream petrochemical sector.

The re-commissioning and eventual operation of the Bataan facility is seen to be a huge step toward reaching the goal of having an integrated and developed Philippine petrochemical industry.

The Bataan polyethylene plant has a rated capacity of 275,000 metric tons per year, with enough room for future capacity expansion.

In a related issue, the Gokongwei-owned JG Summit Holdings Inc.'s decision to put up its own naphtha cracker plant would have little to no effect on the PNOC's plans to build its own plant, Mañalac said.

"For JG, it's their business," he said. "They have decided to build a naphtha cracker on their own, primarily for their own supply and consumption, and maybe with a little excess for potential export or for other midstream companies."

What was important at this point, he said, was the revival of the midstream sector.

With the revival, the next steps in the development of the industry, including the establishment of a naphtha cracker plant, would be easier to undertake, Mañalac added.

Even with a naphtha cracker plant in place, however, he said there would most likely still be a need to import the needed feedstock for it.

"But it will help a little by leveling the playing field, as opposed to importing ethylene or propylene for your feedstock," he said. "It could be a little more competitive if you produce out of your naphtha cracker unit, although your cracker unit will still need to import its feedstock. But that will somehow help augment the differential."

RP, Vietnam, China set up unit for Spratlys research

AFTER signing a landmark agreement to conduct seismic research over an area that included the disputed Spratly islands group, the Philippine National Oil Co. and its counterparts from China and Vietnam are set to establish a joint committee that will oversee the operations of the consortium.

Eduardo Mañalac, PNOC president and chief executive, said the joint operating committee would be composed of officials from the PNOC, China National Offshore Oil Corp. (CNOOC) and Vietnam Oil and Gas Corp. (PetroVietnam).

The committee would be in charge of all operations of the consortium for the three-year duration of the seismic survey and research project, he said.

Mañalac added that this group would also identify specific research locations within the "agreement area."

The "agreement area" covers about 143,000 square kilometers, including the the disputed Spratlys.

Mañalac said in an earlier interview that while PNOC, CNOOC and PetroVietnam all agreed to jointly conduct research on the area, the three countries would maintain their respective positions with regard to the South China Sea issue.

He stressed that the agreement was a commercial transaction, among their national oil firms and must not be linked to the political views of their respective governments.

"We're not doing this on account of the dispute," Mañalac said. "This is a transaction among three national oil companies to see if there are resources to develop (in the area). There are no references to political claims and territorial rights. That's a factor to the quick progress of this agreement."

Under the agreement, PNOC, CNOOC and PetroVietnam would equally share the seismic research costs.

The entire project cost, Mañalac said, would be determined later in future meetings among the three national oil firms. *Abigail L. Ho*

stock up on:
laughter
A DISTINCTIVE WAY OF LIFE at the
metropolitan
PHILTOWN

Revel in life's sweetest moments at The Metropolitan.

Spend the morning with your little ones splashing about in the kiddie pool at the Metropolitan Athletic Club. Then, hop across the street to the mall, where you can indulge them in a toy and a movie. And at the end of the day, you can lounge around at home for cuddles, tickles and kisses.

At The Metropolitan, life simply gets sweeter, better and happier.

For a personal tour of the model units designed by Calma, Periquet and Orosa, visit The Edge showroom at One McKinley Place, Commercial Arcade, Bonifacio Global City. For inquiries, call 830-0455 to 57 or 0917-853-6539 or email us at sales@philtown.net

For as low as ₱12,000.00 a month

Philtown Properties, Inc.
An RFM subsidiary
10 Years of Building the Good Life!

Buildings must undergo seismic tests, say experts

By Tessa R. Salazar

CARS undergo collision tests. Their safety features are subjected to worst-case accident scenarios. Their engines are tested in extreme driving conditions before being mass-produced for commerce.

Houses would undergo their own baptism of fire and be subjected to seismic tests. That is, if engineer Bow Moreno, structural design specialist, had his way.

Strict tests

Before introducing a new housing technology in the country, Moreno says that the materials involved should have undergone, and passed, a series of seismic tests of increasing intensities.

Sadly, Moreno laments that many housing technologies in the country have not undergone strict tests. And he seriously doubts these houses could stand up to a strong Intensity 7 temblor.

An Intensity 7 earthquake is a looming possibility in the country, warns Moreno.

The Philippine archipelago lies in the same Pacific "Ring of Fire" of constantly moving tectonic plates as that of the Indonesian archipelago and Japan. In a span of three months, two earthquakes measuring at least 7 in the Richter scale have devastated Indonesia. Japan has had its share of strong earthquakes in the past three years.

It is in this scenario that Moreno asserts there should be no compromise with seismic tests on houses.

Lighter, but stronger

Moreno looks at the aircraft industry for visions of houses of the future. He says aircraft materials, through the years, have become lighter but stronger than steel.

The future trend for housing would be the same, he says.

Building lighter buildings, he says, eliminates the need for foundations. By then, only slabs are necessary to support the structure.

"But the bottom line is making the structure lighter without sacrificing the generic strength," he says.

Structural engineer Estelo Tumblod, meanwhile, is not satisfied with the word "light." He says structures should be light, and flexible.

He cites that as much as there are nipa huts that are light and flexible, there are thin partition concrete that are truly light but are rigid.

"Once a thin concrete becomes rigid, it is prone to cracking. And that is dangerous," he said.

Earthquake proofing

Structural engineer Agripino Esclanda, on the other hand, asserts that whatever building materials are used, finished structures should be designed for earthquake resistance.

This means that the total weight of the building should be distributed through all its structural parts.

He adds that other factors to consider would be the different building codes relating to each country, and the type of earthquake and its duration.

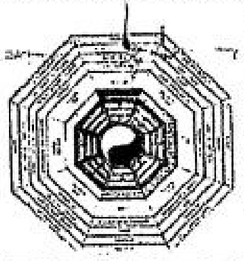
The crucial factor in seismic tests is the lateral or horizontal forces bearing on the structure.

Says Esclanda: "To illustrate this, imagine a structure with very slim columns. This type can accept heavy axial or vertical loads. As long as there is no movement, it can continue to carry a heavy load."

However, "the moment you put a small amount of lateral or horizontal force, these will definitely topple. This is what happens in an earthquake that many people do not know," he concludes.

Front doors and business names

By Dianne M. Villafuerte



FENG SHUI

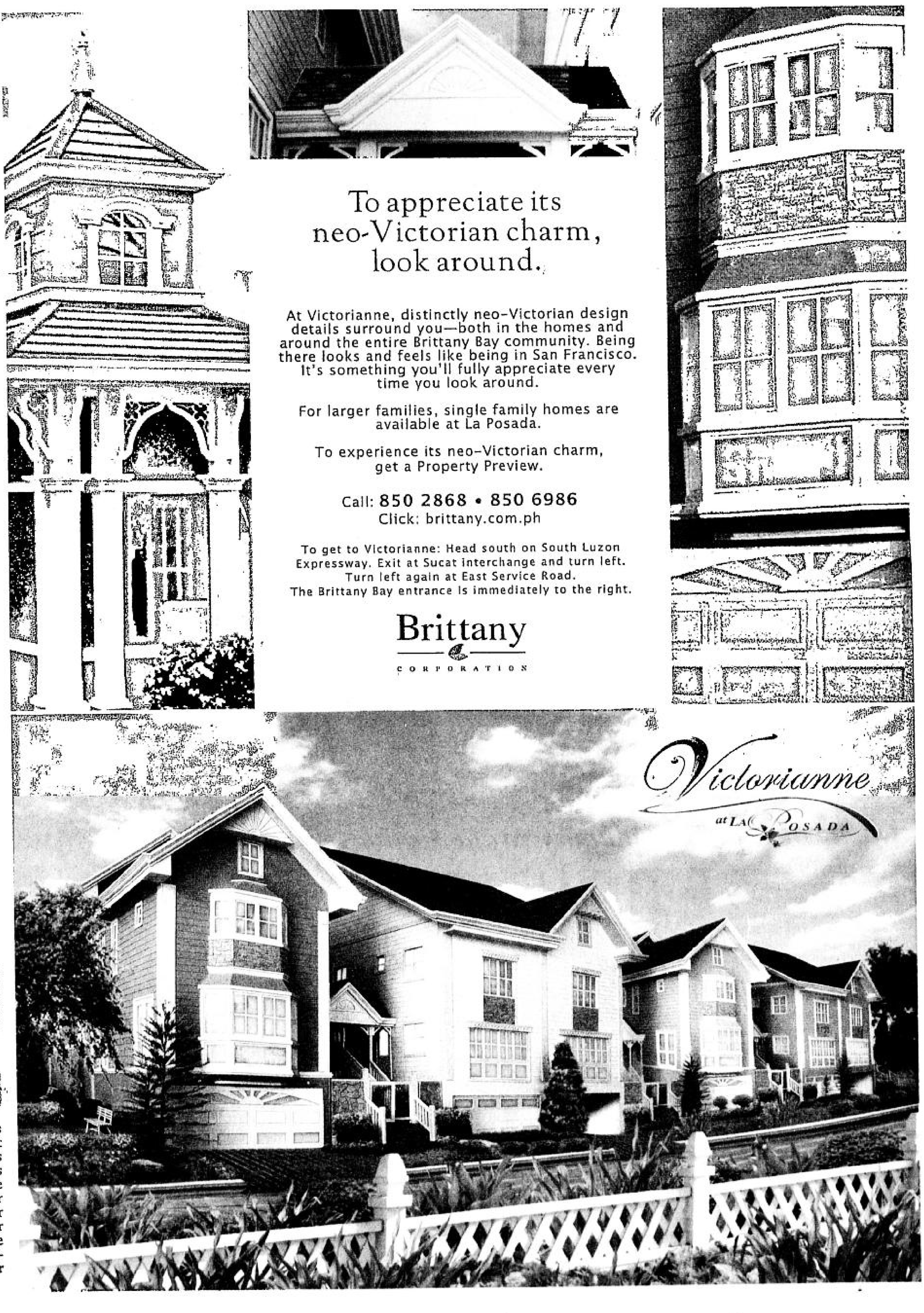
FENG shui or not, it is common sense to give business ventures a rather auspicious name. Feng shui practioner and writer Zaihong Shen writes that Chinese business owners avoid using unlucky or awkward-sounding words in business names, making sure that a business name will inspire positive consumer attention and attract favorable chi (energy). You won't exactly name your bakeshop "Death by Cake," right? (I wonder though how business is for that tea house in Chinatown which goes by the name "Le Ching Tea House" or that beauty salon called "Curl Up and Dye.")

Shen adds that the business name should be entirely related to the business itself so as not to confuse potential clients which might create muddled and weakened energy. The business name should also be easy to remember and have a nice rhythm to it. Quite easy rules to follow, actually.

Feng shui theory also dictates that a business establishment's front door should face the right direction in order to give the business an added boost. What exactly do feng shui masters mean by "right" direction? A front door's right direction is determined by the kind of element that the nature of the business is related to. Shen has provided a business element chart to guide business owners in which direction front doors should face in line with their business:

Nature of business	Element	Direction
boat store or restoration, fishing, housekeeping, laundry, marine biology, surf shop, tourism, transportation	Water	North
accounting, agriculture, finance, mining, real estate, tourism	Earth	Northeast, Southwest
architecture, carpentry, construction, education, law, publishing, stationary/office supply store, textiles	Wood	East, Southeast
electrician, electrical engineering, fire station, food industry, lighting	Fire	South
auto repair, banking, jewelry machinist, martial arts	Metal	West, Northwest

Of course it is still up to you, the business owner, in which direction you really want your front door to face. Keep in mind that this guide is only meant to reinforce your business and better your luck. Also, it is your free choice if you really want to name your lighter kiosk or LPG store "Burn, Baby, Burn" or choose "Meat Me Up" as the name of your meatshop. Then again, there is nothing to lose if we'd go by the beliefs of feng shui and traditional Chinese business owners. They are after all usually the ones successful in businesses.



To appreciate its
neo-Victorian charm,
look around.

At Victorianne, distinctly neo-Victorian design details surround you—both in the homes and around the entire Brittany Bay community. Being there looks and feels like being in San Francisco. It's something you'll fully appreciate every time you look around.

For larger families, single family homes are available at La Posada.

To experience its neo-Victorian charm, get a Property Preview.

Call: 850 2868 • 850 6986
Click: brittany.com.ph

To get to Victorianne: Head south on South Luzon Expressway. Exit at Sucat interchange and turn left. Turn left again at East Service Road. The Brittany Bay entrance is immediately to the right.

Brittany
CORPORATION

Victorianne
at LA POSADA

New shopping destination rises in Ortigas

By Charles E. Buban

THE GROUP behind Ortigas central business district, Greenhills Shopping Center and upscale subdivisions like Greenmeadows, Valle Verde and Wack-Wack announces the groundbreaking of its latest project located on C-5 and bounded by Julia Vargas and Ortigas Avenues.

According to developer Ortigas and Co. Ltd. Partnership (OCLP), the 19-hectare mixed-use commercial development called Frontera Verde will be a unique shopping and recreation destination.

Spanish for Green Edge, Frontera Verde will be made up of several components, which will be developed over a span of 10 years.

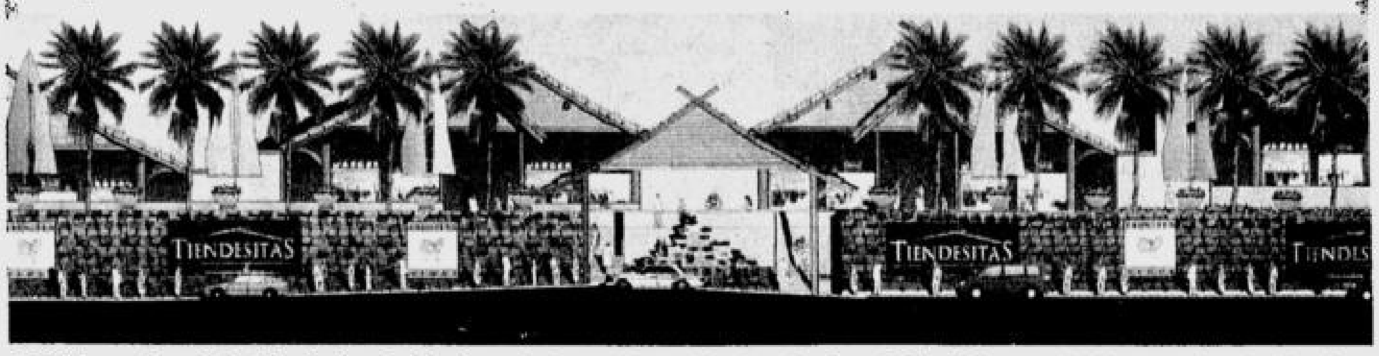
In fact, the Tiendesitas (a collection of small retail stores), a Shell fuel station and a couple of stand-alone restaurants and bars are already operating within the property.

Complementing Greenhills

"Frontera Verde is meant to complement Greenhills Shopping Center and like our famous shopping destination, our newest destination will have different activity zones catering to each member of the family," reveals OCLP chief executive officer Rex Drilon II.

Drilon says the concept is in line with OCLP's—which celebrates its 74th year—mission to continually provide the country's real estate and shopping center industry with new and innovative products and services.

"For example, the Tiendesitas is targeted to help small entrepreneurs and regional products find their market here. It will be very similar to the Chatuchak flea market in Bangkok," reveals Drilon referring to the famous flea market in Thailand, which is billed as the world's largest.



ONCE completed, the Tiendesitas (with the artist's rendition of the façade along C-5) will feature 12 Maranao-inspired single story buildings.

12 buildings

The Tiendesitas features 12 Maranao-inspired single-story buildings with small to medium sized stalls and a huge central plaza for weekend bazaars and activities.

The three-hectare retail development, which will be managed by the Greenhills Shopping Center Group, is zoned into "villages" wherein various retail items will be offered.

"Each village will be unique. Just to give an example, one village will offer antiques while the other pets and plants. There will also be a village for wet and dry goods and foods that offer regional specialties like the "bagnet" of Ilocos, "batchoy" of Bacolod, "inihaw na panga" of Davao, as well as adobo and inihaw," enumerates GSCG general manager Joey Santos.

Shell fuel station

Among the first to rise within the property is the Shell fuel station, which had its soft opening last November.

The 5,000-sq-m station, located at the southern part of the property (Julia Vargas avenue and C-5) is fast becoming a popular stopover for motorists, thanks to a full range of products and services it offers.

"Apart from fuel and car washing services, the Shell station has a Select Store and several locators including Jollibee, Chowking and Mocha Blends," explains OCLP sales and marketing manager Trina Chan.

Ko adds that various stand-alone restaurants and bars—offering local and international cuisines—are now being constructed within this area.

Other components

The OCLP announces other components of Frontera Verde are now in different stages of completion, majority of which are expected to be completed by December.

"Expect a children's interactive park to rise within Frontera Verde. Here we will set up a pet zoo, a carousel, an interactive play area, as well as function areas for shows and competitions," says OCLP Real Estate Division head Cathy Casares-Ko.

A retail section will also rise featuring family-theme restaurants, pet shop, snack carts and various kiddie shops (i.e. photo shop, kiddie salon, animal spa, party shop, daycare center, amusement section, bookstore, candy shop).

Big locator

Among the biggest locators within Frontera Verde is MC Mall Inc., the group behind MC Home Depots and the Fort Strip at the Fort in Taguig City.

"MC Mall will be developing around five hectares within Frontera Verde. Here they will set up a medical mall that will offer everything related to wellness (clinics, medical supply stores); a fusion mall (electronic shops, fashion boutiques, furniture shops casual 'al fresco' dining); an auto mall (a one-stop shop for automotive related products and services) as well as car dealerships," enumerates Ko.

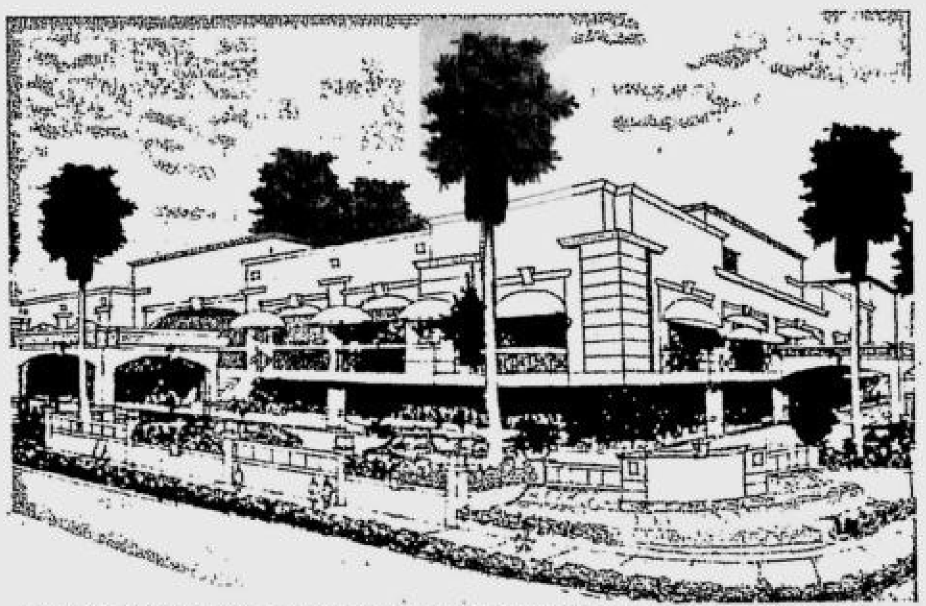
Shopping experience

To complete the shopping experience, the SM group has also agreed to set up its Hypermart beside the Tiendesitas.

"Apart from the Hypermart, OCLP is also building a modern driving range complete with all amenities like pro shops, a delicatessen, a gym and other golf-related services," reveals Drilon.

Toward the later part of 2006, Drilon reveals OCLP is also looking at setting up a terminal within the property.

"In fact, we are planning to set up shuttle service or a loop between Frontera Verde and Greenhills Shopping Center," reveals Drilon saying this will definitely be a case of experiencing and enjoying the best of both shopping destination's offerings.



AN ARTIST'S rendition of the Restaurant Row that is now at different stages of completion.

World's largest dam

AMAZING STRUCTURES

WHENEVER the monsoon season hits Central China, its citizens, especially those who live along the Yangtze River basin, fall prey to massive floods brought about by the strong rains. This yearly incident prompted China to build the Three Gorges Dam, an answer to years of flooding and also to increase trade.

The $24-billion dam is located 1,000 miles west of Shanghai, China's largest city and a principal seaport, and spans 1.4 miles long and 630 feet high. It has a giant reservoir of more than 350 miles long which is able to hold over one trillion gallons of water. The river runs through three gorges at the foot of the western Wu Shan mountains.

The construction of the world's largest dam and its reservoir, however, elicited criticism because it displaced more than one million residents and swallowed towns and villages, farms, ancient temples, burial grounds and other historic sites.

Nearly a million of the residents living on the flood path have been resettled, while many still await resettlement. Many Chinese who have been moved feel cheated by the government who promised improvement in the lives of the former. More than half of those resettled are farmers.

Quite a high price to pay for development, don't you think?

Dianne M. Villafuerte

THE THREE Gorges Dam

Brittany Bay opens new dining choice

MAVERICK property developer Brittany Corp. announces the opening of Grappa's at Brittany Bay on April 4, further strengthening metro south's position as the "next destination" for dining leisure and fun get-togethers.

"We take pains to provide people with a well-rounded experience through the commercial areas we develop to complement our neighborhoods," said Jing Serrano, president of Brittany Corp. "Our goal is urban renewal because all of us deserve a quality of life we can enjoy."

Specialty restaurant

Grappa's is a specialty Italian restaurant known for its home-style Italian recipes, its wood-fired oven-baked pizza, its homemade fresh pasta and sauces, always freshly brewed Caffe Apassionato coffee varieties, and a relaxing bar with its signature microbrewed Pivo Praha (Czech for "own beer"), cocktails and a wide selection of wines.

Along with the relaxed upscale interiors and top-rate service, Grappa's also enjoys the grand view of the Laguna de Bay that all of Brittany Bay's pieces of property are endowed with. With its prime location, Grappa's offers a dining experience designed to relax and soothe, perfect for de-stressing and taking time to enjoy the flavors and ambience, and celebrate every special time spent with family and friends.

Completing the potent La Posada mix with the already highly popular Filipino cuisine of Dencio's Bar and Grill and the convivial ambiance of Figaro coffee shop, Brittany Bay is indeed the "next destination" of choice. Residents around the neighborhood and guests from nearby areas keep it an interesting locale for meeting friends and eating out with the family.

COMPLIMENTED by the blue skies and beautiful view of Manila De Bay, Grappa's further strengthens metro south's position as the "next destination" for dining leisure.

Center for music, arts

Also to be launched on April 4 is the Bay Centre for Music and Arts, located below the popular Dencio's. The Centre offers classes for music, ballet, jazz and painting.

Enrollment is ongoing and classes start on April 16.

Brittany Bay, the flagship project of Brittany Corp., is a 50-hectare master-planned themed community of neighborhoods inspired by the postcard-pretty San Francisco and developed to quaint magnificence in the communities of La Posada, Victorianne and Viera.

Bound by Bicutan and Sucat interchanges, Brittany Bay is a 15-minute drive from Makati, via the South Luzon Expressway, and 20 minutes from Ortigas via the C5 highway. Property previews can be arranged by calling 850-6986, 850-2868 and 850-3359.

Living it up at Ayala Greenfield

ONE of the most unique residential environments in the country is definitely one that is conducive to the active lifestyle: Ayala Greenfield. Those seeking the ideal home atmosphere would be hard-pressed to find something nearly as distinct anywhere else.

This exclusive subdivision boasts of being the only one that combines secure living with top-notch recreational facilities that encourage energetic lifestyles for all family members.

And that's not mere hyperbole. Ayala Greenfield features superlative living all throughout. It has an 18-hole, par 72, all-weather championship golf course, crafted to playing perfection by industry experts such as world-renowned golf course designer Robert Trent Jones Jr. and construction team Heritage Golf. Invigorating games can be played just outside one's home; it's guaranteed fun whichever season one might fancy enjoying a good game with friends or family.

Other facilities

The Golf and Leisure Club will also have other facilities designed especially for family members who aren't necessarily into golf.

There will be sports facilities for bowling, badminton and billiards, a spa and wellness center and swimming pools.

The golf course and the golf clubhouse will be fully operational by the end of the year, while the other facilities will be ready by 2006.

Family community

The active lifestyle doesn't end there. Ayala Greenfield is also a family community that is conducive to other daily recreational activities. The village clubhouse has indoor tennis, basketball and badminton courts for the sports enthusiasts.

Families can also enjoy the infinity and kiddie pools. The 15-hectare Nature Park offers a chance to savor the outdoors through the hiking and biking trails, fishing lagoon, picnic huts and camping grounds.

This exclusive residential community is ideally situated 20 minutes away from Alabang.

Membership at Ayala Greenfield Golf and Leisure Club is exclusive to lot owners of the subdivision. For further details on Ayala Greenfield, please call 728-7000, log on to www.ayalaland.com.ph, or e-mail ayala-sales@ayalaland.com.ph.

Open house at The Columns, Ayala Avenue

THE COLUMNS, Ayala Avenue, Makati's highly anticipated hi-rise residential condominium, opens its doors to buyers and the public in a series of catered open houses hosted by developer Community Innovations Inc., an Ayala company.

Firsthand look

Buyers and investors in the three-tower property, as well as interested parties, will be able to get a firsthand look at the progress of construction, from the seven-story podium to the on-site model units, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. today and tomorrow and again on April 9-10. Refreshments will be served to attendees of the open houses.

The open-house events help whet the appetite of investors and buyers, many of whom have spent the last year eagerly following the progress of construction at the Ayala Avenue/Sen Gil. A Puyat Avenue site.

The excitement among The Columns' buyers continues to build toward the turnover of the first units within the next 12 months.

OPEN house on Monday

Mix of residences

The Columns, Ayala Avenue's three 30-story towers provide a mix of studio, one-bedroom, and two-bedroom residences for young urban achievers and their families who want to live in the midst of the country's most cosmopolitan urban district.

With resort-level amenities, neighborhood-like services and ambience, and the quality and prestige of CII's Ayala Land background, The Columns brings the good life within reach.

Model units are available for viewing at the 3rd Floor Glorietta 3, Ayala Center. On-site model units are available for viewing at the 8th level of Tower One of The Columns, Ayala Avenue located on Ayala Avenue corner Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. from Monday to Sunday.

A different perspective. . .

From page B2-4

pleted by 2007.

Advantages

"Serendra combines the advantages of both suburban living and ideal location close to one's place of work, play and education," explains Lacson.

The development is just beside Market! Market! bounded by McKinley Parkway Road, 11th Avenue, 26th Street and 31st Street.

Apart from being near schools (Japanese, British and International Schools), Serendra is just minutes away from the Makati central business district as well as Greenbelt and Glorietta shopping centers.

Full range of amenities

Serendra is also the only residential development to date that has a full range of amenities similar to those found in country clubs, such as swimming pools, badminton and basketball courts, jogging pathways, and spacious lawns, along with the privileged use of function rooms and lounges.

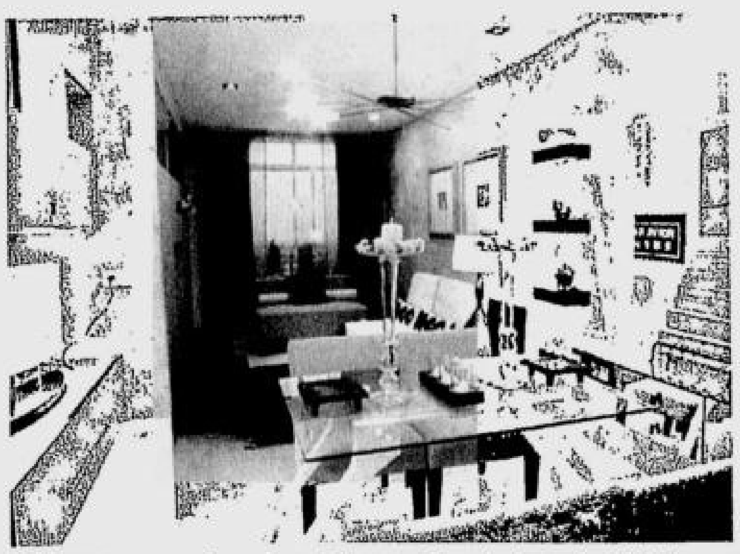
AT SERENDRA, there's always a green place of solitude in every corner where one can relax and meditate.

The development will combine a European-inspired master plan with Filipino architecture patterned after the "Bahay na Bato," described Lacson of the general architecture.

Condominiums at Serendra are priced between P3.4 million and P18 million, with unit sizes ranging from 36 to 223 square meters.

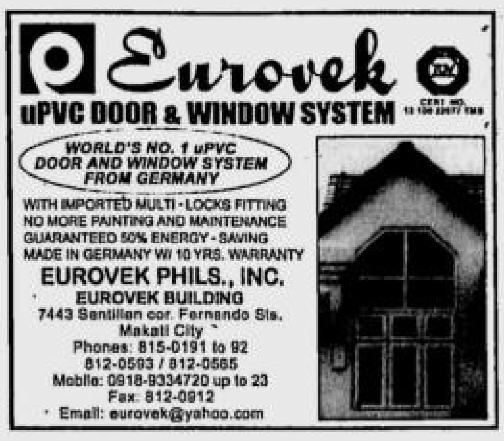
"Like all Ayala-developed properties, they can be assured that Serendra will be well-maintained and extremely secured. The Ayala Property Management Corp. will make sure of this as it has trained personnel responsible for the safekeeping of homes, maintenance of the garden units and amenities," adds Lacson.

THE DUAL work of light and art steals the show in the bedroom. The dresser cum-study in the corner managed to tuck in still the ottoman using every square inch available.



CLEAN lines...cool comfort...The use of vertical panels of fabric, streamlined pieces and subtle color gradations all throughout the room make for a relaxed abode.

> The growing popularity of one-bedroom condo units is further boosted by the increasing number of independent single professionals in the city



Eurovek
uPVC DOOR & WINDOW SYSTEM
WORLD'S NO. 1 uPVC DOOR AND WINDOW SYSTEM FROM GERMANY
WITH IMPORTED MULTI-LOCKS FITTING
NO MORE PAINTING AND MAINTENANCE
GUARANTEED 50% ENERGY-SAVING
MADE IN GERMANY W/ 10 YRS. WARRANTY
EUROVEK PHILS., INC.
EUROVEK BUILDING
7443 Santillan cor. Fernando Sts.
Makati City
Phones: 815-0191 to 92
812-0593 / 812-0565
Mobile: 0918-9334720 up to 23
Fax: 812-0912
Email: eurovek@yahoo.com

A planet called 'Venue'

INTO SPACE

Pinky Cruz

SEARCHING for the best small condo space has become a relentless pursuit for me lately. In one of my previous articles, I featured the 37-square-meter one-bedroom offering of Presidio in Sucat. The task of putting all domestic functions in one tiny dwelling has been more of a given rather than a choice.

Torn between traveling far to get to my suburban house and having to do with a "cute" dwelling near the office, I chose the latter in what I would consider a lifestyle-changing business decision. And I have never looked back ever since.

Fast and fabulous

The growing popularity of one-bedroom condo units these days is further boosted by the increasing number of independent single professionals in the city whose mobile lifestyle demands quick access to everything—gym, restos, spa, café, laundry, day care. Name it. That is why all these high-rise condos must have mixed-use developments in order to lure the up- and-mobile crowd.

Of course there is the downside: One becomes ensconced in the capsule of a house—having your bathroom, bed and dining at one-step distances. Plus the rarity of sunlight, and occasions of unwarranted noises from unscrupulous neighbors.

All things considered, a busy soul decides to still go for it. And the challenge to make it as habitable as possible becomes the monumental feat of a daily grind.

A gem in small package

The Venue Residences on Makati Avenue is one fine example of this mixed-use high-rise development. The 45-sq-m one-bedroom and 52-sq two-bedroom are proofs that small doesn't have to be scarce. Going in, one can almost overlook space and ventilation limitations. The kitchen, dining and living areas are surprisingly defined. And thanks to the wonders of lighting, the ordinary walls leap to life and ingeniously create variations in moods from convivial to intimate to functional. The magic tricks do not end there.

The designers veered from standard furniture and chose multi-functionality. A sofa hides books as well. The partition houses the revolving TV, DVD and stuff. A buffet table hides the china, becoming a floating piece of reflection as well. The usual wall sconces above the bed become eye-catching art pieces that give more depth to the bedroom walls.

Leaving the model units, I can't help but conclude that sometimes, the only limitation in enjoying a small space lies not in the four corners of a condo but in the finite confines of an unimaginative mind.

UNEQUALLED PERFORMANCE
macnell
architectural paints
ACRE COAT
Coats like no other, for that 100% waterproof finish. The perfect blend of strength and aesthetics.
MACNELL AQUASEAL
A new generation of waterproofing technology that provides protection from destructive effects of water seepage.
ACRYL MEL
Provides excellent hiding power and easy brushing.
ACRE CAST
Specially formulated to provide ultimate surface protection. Washable texture.
ACRE LAX
Combines the advantage of acrylic latex and emulsion latex.
Eliminates Concrete Seepage
100% Waterproof
Manufactured by
MAYON INDUSTRIAL CORP.
51 JOY CORNER HARMONY STS., GRACE VILLAGE,
BALINTAWAK, QUEZON CITY, METRO MANILA
TELS.: 241-3353 • 364-5731 • 364-4733
241-3159 • 364-7135 • 364-6345

POWER MIX
GARANTISADONG WATERPROOFED!
- Superior water protection
- Moves with concrete, bridges cracks
- Excellent adhesion to concrete
- No blistering
- High UV resistance
- Tintable (for colors)

POWERMIX
2004 Top Waterproofing-Compound Brand
2004 National Consumers Quality & People's Choice Awards
GLOBALBRANDS
CHEMICAL FORMULATIONS DIVISION
Visit us at www.globalbrands.com.ph
Quality Management Certification

Getting fire protection from cement board

IN THE LAST three months, properties worth more than P200 million have been damaged by a series of fire incidents that destroyed several houses and buildings. Last January, a flea market and several commercial establishments in Boracay burned down. That same week. fire razed two factories in Mandaue, six houses in Lahug, Cebu and 12 houses in Sta. Mesa, Manila.

James Hardie, a leading manufacturer of fiber cement building boards, encourages home builders and homeowners to take serious fire prevention measures. "The company is doing its part in helping the public by supplying fire-resistant cement boards to home builders and repairers," says Robert Ortega, marketing manager of James Hardie Philippines.

HardiFlex cament boards are made of fire-resistant materials. These boards have the homey look and feel of wood but unlike lumber, they are not susceptible to fire.

Environment friendly

Cement boards are also durable, environment-friendly, require low maintenance and safe as building materials.

They do not contain asbestos, which poses enormous health risks. Made from wood fibers sourced from replenishable, plantation forests in New Zealand, sand and cement, they are also resistant to water and termite damage.

"Home builders are assured of fire safety and peace of mind," Otega says.

Beware of fakes!
Ang totoo lang ang totoong mabisa.
Goodbye, peke! Get genuine LENTREK TC para totoong goodbye, anay!

GENUINE
ETO ANG TOTOO!
Genuine LENTREK TC is time-proven, trusted worldwide and most effective.
• Comes in coex plastic bottles with white caps and gallon cans.
• Printed paper label covers the gallon can entirely.
• "A trademark of Dow AgroSciences" is on the label.

FAKE
ETO ANG PEKE!
Based on independent tests, fake LENTREK TC is not effective against termites due to its almost zero active ingredient content.
• Comes in breakable glass bottles and gallon cans. No genuine LENTREK TC in glass bottle was formulated after 2000.
• Can is partially covered by paper label.
• Does not mention trademark of Dow AgroSciences on the label.

* LENTREK is a trademark of Dow AgroSciences.
Distributed in the Philippines by:
Jardine Agchem
Jardine Davies Building
222 Sen Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City
Tel 843-6011 / 843-6041
www.jardinedavies.com
Huwag magpaloko sa peke! Bumili lang ng genuine LENTREK TC.
If you are not sure you have the real LENTREK TC product, call Engr. Lunas at 843-6011 to 15 or Cellphone No. 0920-910-2629 (ANAY).

A different perspective in urban residential dev't

By Charles E. Buban

NEVER forget the value of trees, parks and open spaces.

For Community Innovations Inc., the appeal of greenery in urban residential development is nearly universal among home buyers. CII believes that ample greenery is vital for good quality living surroundings.

Says CII president Angela De Villa Lacson: "Trees, parks and open spaces are essential to our life, health and welfare. They bring pleasure, recreation and places for community celebration and spiritual retreat."

She reveals that in CII's Serendra development project inside the Bonifacio Global City in Taguig, they have achieved the concept by going for low-density residential development that features clusters of low- to mid-rise condominium buildings and devotes about 65 percent of its 12-hectare land to lush, spacious gardens.

Urban sanctuary

Serendra is conceived as an urban sanctuary that celebrates the idea of community and caters to home buyers who are tired of making compromises for their families often living in cramped spaces just to be near work or enduring long hours of traffic just to experience suburban living.

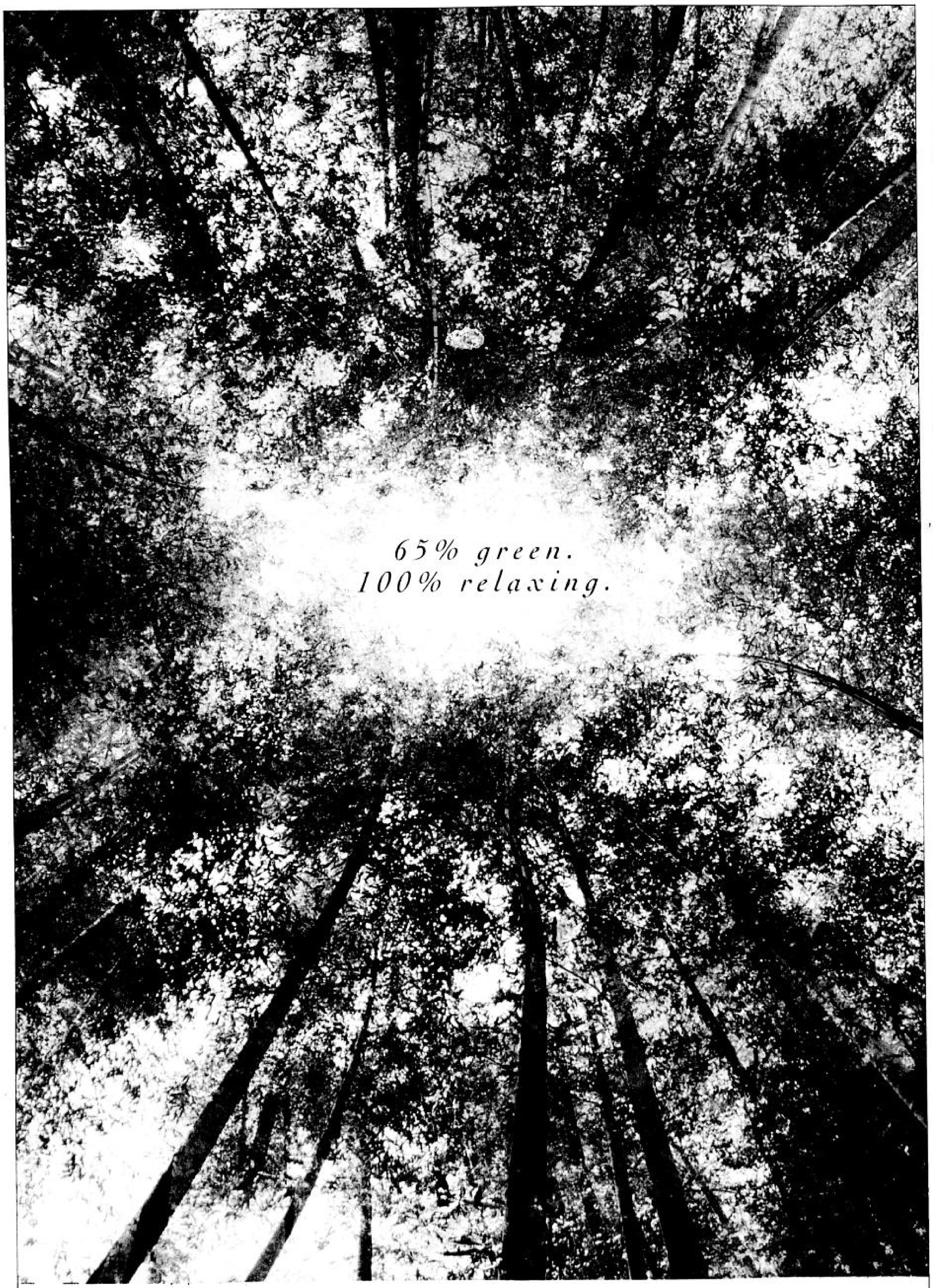
"One of the major drawbacks to living in a highly urbanized area is having to contend with cramped condos. Our home buyers who long for a spacious suburban lifestyle will find that Serendra is a perfect embodiment of this green atmosphere, as evidenced by several themed gardens located all over the development," says Lacson.

With approximately 7.5 hectares to be dedicated to wide open spaces, exclusive themed gardens and courtyards, Lacson promises that Serendra will be the only residential development as of yet that will allow residents to enjoy a serene urban sanctuary.

Developed by Serendra Inc., a joint venture of CII and Ayala Land Inc., the first phase of Serendra is expected to be com-

A DIFFERENT/B2-2

SERENDRA is set in a landscape of greenery and flowers, with ample open space and thoughtfully provided amenities.



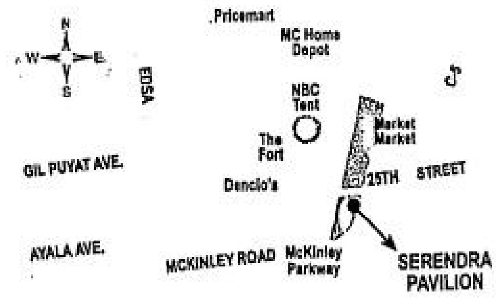
SERENDRA: THE SUBURBAN SANCTUARY IN AN URBAN SETTING

Serendra takes the concept of relaxation and pushes it several notches higher. Aside from greenery that covers about two-thirds of the property's 12 hectares, Serendra's extensive facilities list includes lap, lagoon, and kiddie pools, playgrounds, game rooms, restaurants, indoor play areas, and multi-purpose courts. There are walkways, jogging paths, and other common areas that promote a healthy sense of community while never compromising privacy. And as if that weren't enough to relax the work-weary professional, Serendra also helps eliminate commute-related stress by its sheer accessibility to prestigious schools, the country's premiere business district, major hospitals, and some of the world's best shopping.

It's a marriage of the best that urban and suburban living have to offer. And it's all here at Serendra.

* * *

Email serendra@ayalaland.com.ph
or visit www.serendra.com.
Model units are available for viewing at the Serendra Pavilion, 26th Street, Bonifacio Global City, everyday from 9am to 8pm.
HLURB LTS Nos: 10412, 10464 and 10482



A JOINT VENTURE OF

AYALA LAND, INC.

COMMUNITY INNOVATIONS INC.
An AYALA Company

While our expansive greenery (which covers almost two-thirds of the entire development) has the ability to soothe even the most frayed of urban-existence wracked nerves, Serendra leaves nothing to chance. Serendra also incorporates the best modern amenities and facilities to complete its vision of becoming the suburban sanctuary in the heart of the city for you and your family.

Serendra
An AYALA Community

65% greenery also means only 35% of the property is available for residence (less in fact, since more reservations are being made as you read this.) Contact or visit us and make a reservation today. Call us at ***888-0000*** *or* ***848-5000****. Not doing so might leave you 120% sorry.*

SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 2005

PHILIPPINE DA Y IN UIRE

Super 1

C1

E-mail: super@inquirer.com.ph

Text us your feedback: inquirer sup name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Editor **Pam Pastor**
Creative Director **Tim Yap**

Super!Countdown

60 days 'til Super! anniv

style . urban living . pop culture . entertainment . recreation

revisit

Super exclusive! Scorching Nina page D1

Meet Nic Manahan theater's newest star page C4

Photos of KC Concepcion's Paris apartment page F1

Cedric Sandez goes illegally low page E3

Produced by TIM YAP
Photography: MARK NICDAO
Styling: PUEY QUIÑONES
Grooming: KEN PAGASPAS
Hair: ROMAN GRAVADOR
Cover Star: NIC MANAHAN

Get a fresher, prettier face with SMART Buddy GIRLtxt and Johnson's Pure Essentials

Join SMART Buddy GIRLtxt now and get a FREE Johnson's Pure Essentials Mini Face Powder. And if you grab any exclusive JPE downloadables you'll get a FREE Johnson's Pure Essentials Loose Face Powder at selected Watsons branches! So if you want to look and feel pretty, get into GIRLtxt now!

Download a GIRLtxt logo to get THIS! Ex. Text GIRL LPGIRL to 386

Loose Face Powder

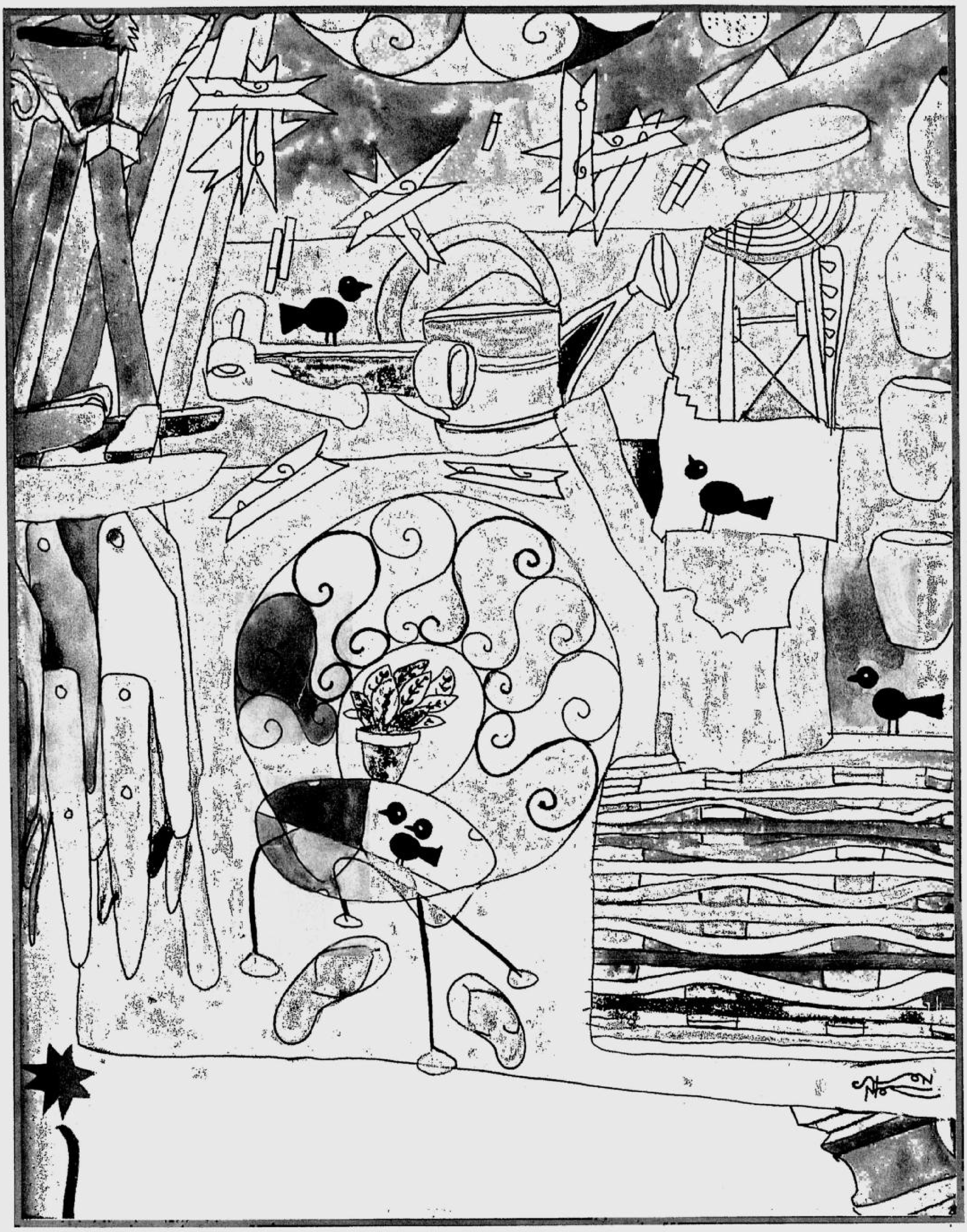
Mini Face Powder

Text FRESH to 3993 and get THIS!

Participating Watsons branches: MANILA 2F SM City Manila • 2F SM City Centerpoint • GF Regal Shopping Centre Ermita MAKATI GF Greenbelt 1 • GF Waltermart Center QC G/F Shop 2 Eastwood Corporate Plaza • Level 1/A 25-31 Robinsons Galleria • UGF SM City North Edsa Annex • UGF SM City North Edsa • UGF SM City Fairview • 3/F B 18-20 Farmers Plaza MANDALUYONG 2F The Podium • LGF SM Megamall • UGF SM Megamall Bldg A SAN JUAN Unit 16 Greenhills Shopping Center TAGUIG 2F Market Market Bonifacio Global City PARANAQUE GF SM Supercenter Sucat • UGF SM City Bicutan Bldg A LAS PINAS LGF SM Southmall MUNTINLUPA GF Festival Supermall Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang CAVITE: 2F SM City Bacoor • Supermarket Area SM City • Governor's Drive Pala-pala, Dasmarinas BAGUIO SM City Baguio • LGF SM City Baguio BATANGAS SM City Batangas, Upper Ground BULACAN UGF SM City Marilao • Supermarket Area SM City Marilao OLONGAPO CITY G/F Commercial Mall Magsaysay Ave Corner Gordon Ave PAMPANGA 2F SM City Pampanga • UGF SM City Pampanga Annex LUCENA CITY Dalahican Road cor. Maharlika Highway Ibabang Dupay CEBU LGF SM City Cebu North Reclamation Area • Savemore Supermarket, Mactan ILOILO CITY SM City Delgado • UGF SM City Mandurriao CDO UGF SM City • Lim Ket Kai Corporate Office, Lim Ket Kai Center DAVAO UGF SM City Davao

Keyword automatically enters you in a subscription service P2.50/info received

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1279 Series of 2005. See posters for details.



What makes your heart flip-flop?

Suddenly, these things don't seem so mundane anymore

By Jojo T. Nones
Original artwork by Jason Moss

FEELING rebellious and proudly indignant, I slammed the front door shut, screaming back at my parents with all my might, vowing to leave our house and never to return.

I was 15, a fey and lithe boy, and Ma and Pa had just rejected my request to attend a big party at the house of some kid who was making my heart race—or as we would say back then, do flip-flops.

I remember having been red with fury, despising my parents for being so unreasonable and inconsiderate. How could they not see that I was ultimately going to die if I failed to attend Mandy's party? At that moment, I swore to never see or speak to my parents again.

Now when I look back, I laugh at how silly I was and laugh some more at how convinced I was of what I said. And I'm guessing my parents may have also been laughing their heads off after I stormed out of our house that night, confident that I wouldn't make it past the village clubhouse.

Of course I went back, after being bitten by countless mosquitoes, wandering around the unlit tennis court that night. And I sure am glad to have gone back. I have two of the world's greatest parents and they have given me so much in life—except for permission to attend that hot kid Mandy's party. (Yes, I'm still not over it yet.)

Now, though I live far from them, it's like we've never really lived apart. I keep going back, keep revisiting our old house, keep drinking in all the wonderful and beautiful memories I've spent there as a fey and lithe boy with little crushes that made my heart do flip-flops.

Today is Thursday and there's a kiddie party going on just outside my room. My partner and I had decided to throw a graduation party for one of his baby nieces and her guests—and the little devils are having a grand time thrashing our apartment.

I hear the shrill voices and shrieks of laughter and I am thrown back to a time when complex was theory and simple was law. I am transported to our old house and Ma is thinner while Pa still smokes. There's a noisy party in our backyard. All the popular kids from my high school are here. Some kids from other high schools are also present. And Mandy, the one who makes my heart do the flip-flop thing, is helping my mom with the barbecue.

Funny sometimes it seems how we find solace in the most mundane of things. And funny sometimes it seems how these mundane objects, people, and places figure in our lives. Suddenly, these things don't seem so mundane anymore.

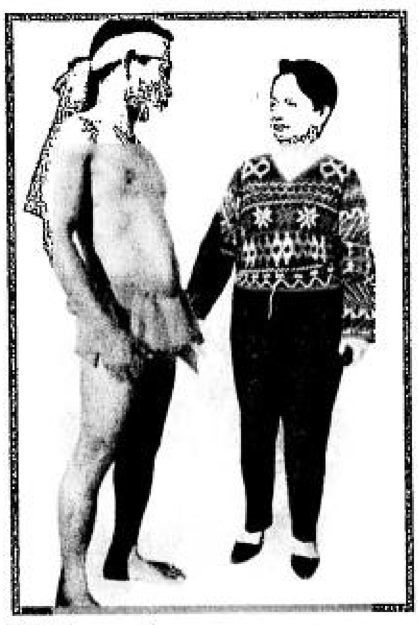
What makes you blush? What makes you sigh? What makes your heart flip-flop? They are all but fiber of one bundle-granting us some sense of afterglow, composure, gratification. And they all constitute some form of revisiting, a sojourn into what once was experienced. Today, I take that journey back in time. I remember, I revisit, I smile.

Just outside my door, I can hear my partner having an argument with his niece. She wants more ice cream and none of the angel hair pasta that we cooked. My partner flatly says no. She screams at him, vowing to never come back to our apartment ever again.

I slowly begin to laugh. She'll be back. I'm pretty darn sure of it.

Jason Moss 12th One-man show:
6 Fairy tale deaths: series 1/6:
A cash cow's dairy diary,
April 2 to 27 Boston Gallery:
72-A Boston St. Quezon City.
Opens today at 6pm

Oh caption, my caption!



Winning caption:
GMA: "In my house, I wear the pants."
Man: "In my hut, there are no pants."
Sender: Ronald Tengasantos

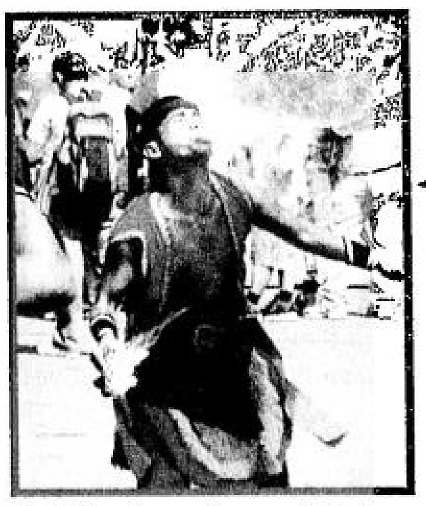
By Gino de la Paz

HEY HEY hey! Did you miss us? We know it's been a month since our last challenge but we're back with bigger prizes. Like, yeehah! So Ronald, you're one lucky dude. For your patience and wit, you win a travel certificate for four—FOUR—courtesy of SuperFerry! To find out where you and your buds will be headed this summer, why don't you give our Marketing Department a holler at 897-8808? Awesome.

This week's challenge

If you've been feeling extra sticky lately, don't worry because you're not alone. With the temperature reaching 35.8 degrees Celsius in Quezon City just last Monday, the mercury is really going crazy in our country. Which brings us to this week's photo. (Nice segue, eh?)

This man, a performer from the Indonesian consulate, is playing with fire during the recent celebration of Davao City's founding anniversary. It looks really cool, we mean, hot, don't you think? The last statement was a cue for you to start sending in your captions to our inbox at super@inquirer.com.ph or key in inquirer sup name/age/city/caption to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart). Nah, it's not a post-April Fool's Day hoax. We're really giving away Super! SuperFerry travel certificates from now until May 14. Super! SuperFerry! Yay! Have an amazing April everyone!



Super!'s caption:
HOTTAH, hottah!

SuperFerry is giving away travel certificates from now until May 14! Yay!

SUMMER WORKSHOP
Drawing Class for Animation
Ages:
7 to 12 and 13 to 16
Call for inquiries:
687-3904
636-4675
GD-3 Pacific Center,
32 San Miguel Ave.,
Ortigas, Pasig City
innov8
Academy Inc.
School of Animation Arts

Feel na Feel!
With Nothing is on Feeling!
OKAMOTO 0.02 Condom
The Most Sensitive Condom
Imported: Japan
DALESTARR ENTERPRISES
44 Sgt. Esguerra Ave., South Triangle, Q.C.
Tel. Nos.: 413-6008 • 415-6844 • 924-1704 • 924-1654
Customer Care: 0917-5298928 • Fax: 924-1646
E-mail: d-starr@compass.com.ph • Web: www.dalestarr.com
Available at: Dyna Drug • Canadian Drug • Watsons • Plaza Fair • Fair Mart • South Star Drug • Silver Drug • Shell Select • Starmart • Petron Treats • Parson Drug • Easy Gas Con. Cebu • Botica Alonzo • Surety Drug • Friendship Drug • Casman Drug • All 7-11 outlets
WE INVITE DEALERS / SALES AGENTS / TELEMARKETERS

up to 50% off
great selections mallwide
3 day sale
april 1.2.3
mall hours 10am - 10pm
SM City MANILA
SM City BATANGAS
Get a chance to
WIN
raffle prizes!
with every P500 single or accumulated purchase at SM Department Store, SM Supermarket or at any participating mall establishments.
SM City ILOILO
SM City CEBU
HP Desktop Computers and HP Photosmart Printers with computer table and chair
SUZUKI Smash
color may vary from actual unit
See mechanics posters for details.
Color TVs
Refrigerators
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1505, Series of 2005
Per DTI-REGION VII Permit No. 034, Series of 2005

SM BIG 3-DAY SALE
AT 4 SM SUPERMALLS

Spectacular discounts and exciting prizes await shoppers at SM City Manila, SM City Batangas, SM City Cebu and SM City Iloilo on April 1, 2 and 3.

SM CITY MANILA

A minimum P500 purchase of groceries with yellow tags at SM Supermarket entitles shoppers to play the pachingco game. The winners get exciting instant prizes.

A wide selection of Value Packs exclusively bundled for the 3-day sale event combine grocery or fresh items with a free bonus item and tagged at very attractive prices. SM Bonus rice, sugar, hangers and tissue are among the items that come free with the featured grocery or fresh items.

SM CITY BATANGAS

Summer fever has hit the fashion racks of SM Department Store Batangas! The widest array of fashion ensembles are yours for the picking - from skimpy beach wear to colorful leisure apparel.

All these and more at 50% off on selected merchandise at SM Department Store on April 1, 2 and 3. Plus the chance to take home a foldable chair with cooler for only P399.

SM CITY ILOILO / SM CITY CEBU

Shoppers can enjoy up to 50% off on great fashion finds, home furnishings, beauty and healthcare products.

SM City Iloilo and Cebu are giving away these exciting prizes per mall:
- 6 JVC 21" Color TVs
- 6 White-Westinghouse 9 cu.ft. Refrigerators

RAFFLE PRIZES AT STAKE
MANILA
3sets - HP Desktop Computer, HP Photo Smart Printer and Computer Table with Chair.
Draw date: April 3, 2005
BATANGAS
6units SUZUKI Smash 10 Motorcyles
Draw date: April 3, 2005
CEBU and ILOILO
12sets JVC 53.34CM(21")Color TVs
12units White Westinghouse 0.27m3(9cu.ft) Refrigerators
Draw date: April 3, 2005

SM CINEMA
FREE CHEEKY CURLZ
for every purchase of (2) movie tickets only at SM City Manila, SM City Batangas, SM City Cebu and SM City Iloilo.

SM FOODCOURT
FREE scoops of Nestle Ice Cream with every purchase of P59, P79 or P99 combo meals.

Mall hours are from 10am to 10pm at SM City Manila, SM City Batangas, SM City Iloilo and SM City Cebu.

NICCOLO MANAHAN

Can he bring the audien

THEY say the meek shall inherit, you know the Book doesn't lie…"

I still can't pinpoint what makes this guy special. There's something unique about him, definitely.

Is it his eyes, for whom an actor's soul gets to express one's self? Is it his voice that, with every note serenading his audience, escalates to a goose bump-inducing ride of emotions?

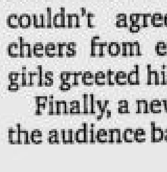
Or is it his movement, a combination of off beat and slightly syncopated—a fresh change from all the polish and pizzazz that you see from more seasoned actors our age?

It has been three years since **Nic Manahan** started out as Prince Charming in a Repertory Philippines' production of Snow White. After years of doing bit parts in various plays, he now gets top billing status in their latest camp production of an old favorite, "Little Shop of Horrors," cast as unlikely romantic lead Seymour Krelborn.

It is funny to note that almost a decade ago, his sister **Patty** played the show's female lead Audrey (alternating with **Ana Abad Santos-Bitong**, who reprises the role with much aplomb and doesn't look a day older when she first performed the role—but I digress) in the same production. Now it's Nic's turn to face the music.

"I didn't realize that it really runs in my blood, even if I grew up watching my sister and dad (theater stalwart **Bonggoy Manahan**) onstage. Even my *lola* (the legendary **Elvira Manahan**) was a performer," he says.

Thunder struck



Tim Yap

Yes, I think this guy was born to be onstage. I wasn't around to witness the thunder caused by the late Elvira Manahan, but I was privy to the warmth that his dad Bonggoy exuded, as I was able to work with him in a couple of productions in my childhood.

But just like a bolt of thunder that struck me when I first saw Patty Manahan hit the stage in "Gigi" when Rep first staged the show at their former Shangri-la home, I felt that same surge of energy watching Nic play Seymour.

The last Rep play I saw was "Fame," and to say I was disappointed with the outcome of the show is an understatement. Hopping backstage to congratulate Ana for her sensitive Audrey portrayal, I stumbled upon Nic, and noted his fresh, bright and inspiring performance of the male lead in the show.

There are just some people that glow onstage. This guy exuded so much brilliance, made you hum the songs more and appreciate the musical even better.

His Seymour is spontaneous, strong and sympathetic at the same time. The audience couldn't agree more, as cheers from excited college girls greeted his curtain call.

Finally, a new face that will get the audience back into the theater.

"I've been watching the same people since I was single," said my fifty something, now twice married tita, super friend of the company's famous founders. "At some point it all looked, smelled and felt the same," she observed. "It's great that there are new talents that are rising now. The theater scene should give them a chance and welcome them with open arms. After all, that's what the magic is all about."

Despite the lineage, the new "it" boy of the theater scene is hell bent on working his way up.

Old school

"Baby steps—that's what my career is all about," he confesses, as he told me that he just loved the musical (Little Shop) so much that he first auditioned to be the Plant. When that didn't push through, he auditioned to be the Dentist. "But I turned in a really bad audition," he said. Later on, he was shocked to get the Seymour offer. "I almost did not accept it—there was so much pressure because that was the lead role."

Nic belongs to a new school of artists that believe in old school habits, willing to wait for their turn and not rush into the spotlight just because it's what actors' careers are deemed to follow.

Up next, this graduate of the University of Asia and the Pacific plays a waiter in Rep's localized production of "Whose Wife Is It Anyway?" and the romantic lead for "The Emperor's New Clothes."

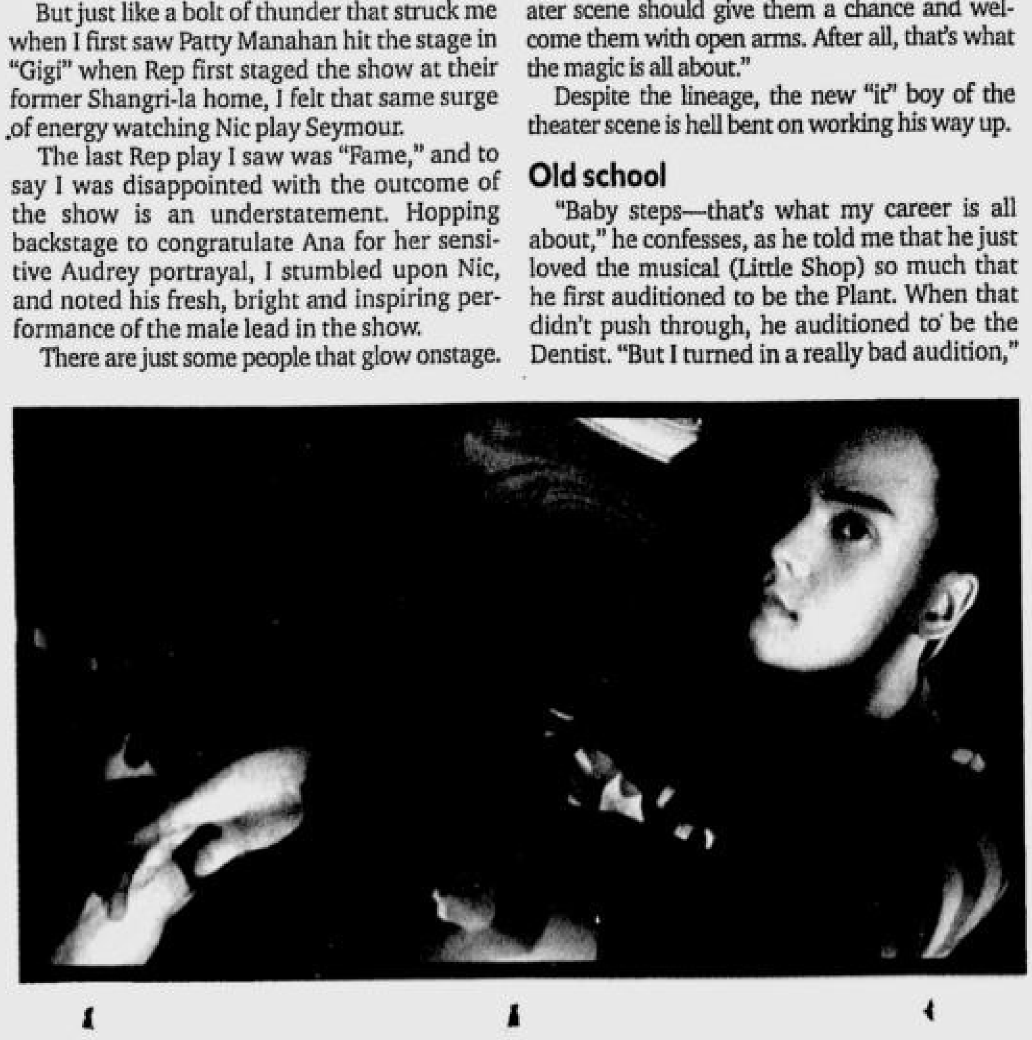
He will also get to teach kids about "the craft" for Rep's Summer Workshop. "My goal is to make enough to live on my own," says the 26-year-old thespian.

For the first production, he needs to learn how to speak in baroque English, and for the latter, lessons in acrobatics. Such is the life of an actor—the excitement of living different lives in a span of a career, of making people happy even as you rehearse long hours just to get your character right, of sacrifices to be made all in the name of doing something you love.

In the midst of all these, Nic Manahan shines brightly. Welcome theater's newest star.

Is it his eyes, for whom an actor's soul gets to express one's self? Is it his voice that, with every note serenading his audience, escalates to a goose bump-inducing ride of emotions?

Catch Nic in "Little Shop of Horrors" this Saturday and Sunday at 3:30 p.m. at Rep's Onstage Theater, Greenbelt 1.



PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARK NICDAO; HAIR BY RAMON GRAVADOR; MAKEUP BY KEN PAGASPAS

ce back to the theater?

The thing about fame is that... It's a thankless 24/7 job. Not for me.

The thing I love most about what I do is... Putting myself in another person's shoes.

People might be surprised to know that... I have the longest growing nipple hair in the world.

The most important thing I've ever learned is that... Everyone always looks out for number one.

I wish when I started off I've been told to... Cartwheel, because they're asking me to do it now.

The worst thing that ever happened to me was when... I dissed the whole audience after a school play.

And what taught this to me was... No man is an island.

The secret to happiness is... A gram of Vitamin C, a multivitamin and a stick of butter.

My best ever outfit consisted of... Crotch-hugging tights, during a kiddie show.

My Super! Saturday night consists of... A beer with friends

The soundtrack to my life would include... Hedwig and the Angry Inch, Billy Joel, lotsa '80s music. And of course, Vonda Shepard

If I was invisible for a day, I would... Not tell what I was going to do. Muahahahahaha!

The thing that makes me most angry is... poorly disciplined traffic.

If I was the most powerful person on earth... I'd place bomb threat-free MRTs all over the metropolis.

The best thing about family is that... There's an organization that CAN'T get rid of me.

When I'm gone, they'll probably say... "Why is Nic late for rehearsal AGAIN?"

If money was no option... I'd be a stage actor for good, no worries.

When I retire, I would like... Someone to share it with.

The world would be a much better place if... "we all could just admit/ that we are racist a little bit" Avenue Q

My hero is... Mark Hamill, he's a survivor.

The thing that makes my life worth living is... The fact that I'm not going to stay alive for long.

My greatest hope for the future is... Increased government spending for the theatrical arts. It's the right thing to do, damn it.

The worst thing somebody said about me was... probably behind my back

My favorite moments are when... The audience enjoys what they are watching.

My most embarrassing moment was when... The audience DIDN'T enjoy what they were watching.

I'm saving up for... Independence. Right now, speakers.

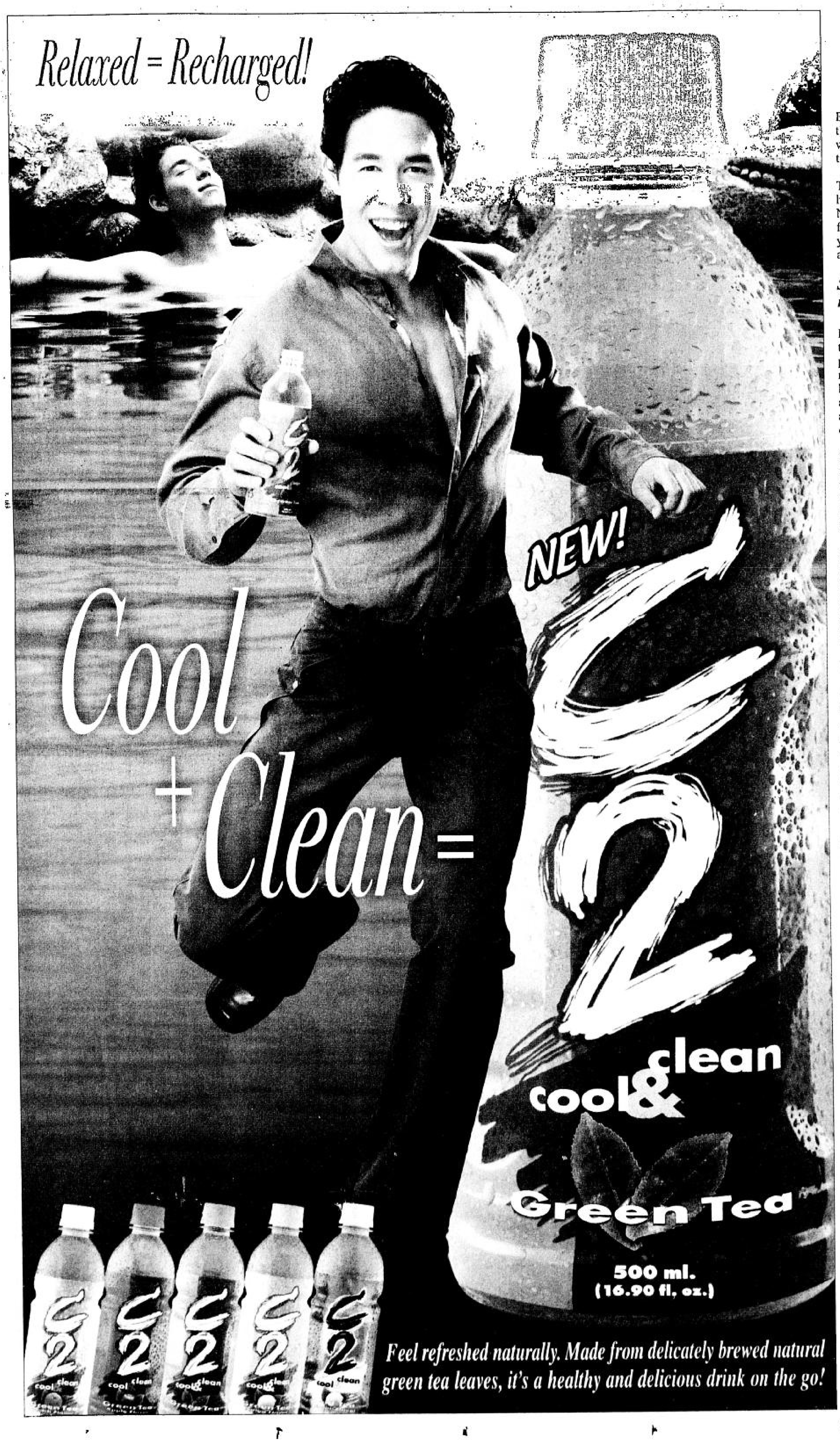
My biggest indulgence is... Sir... DVD.

My current state of mind is... Questionnaire-answer mode

If someone would play me in my biopic it would be... My sister. They say we look alike.

My five favorite words are... Asphyxiate, thingee, *puwet*, schwing, and snarf (borrowed hehe)

I aspire to be... normal


Relaxed = Recharged!
Cool
+ Clean =
NEW!
C2
cool & clean
Green Tea
500 ml.
(16.90 fl. oz.)
Feel refreshed naturally. Made from delicately brewed natural green tea leaves, it's a healthy and delicious drink on the go!

C2 Green Tea: It's delicious, it's health-tea!

Everybody drinks iced tea these days. What they don't realize is that most of the time, what they are drinking is more sugar than tea!

The good news is there's a new kind of healthy iced tea available in the market. New C2 Cool & Clean Green Tea, made from delicately brewed natural tea leaves so you not only feel deliciously refreshed, you'll also get all the health benefits of green tea.

Stay fit to a Tea! Green tea's numerous health benefits:

It's an antioxidant! Studies have shown that green tea has many health-giving properties. It is a powerful antioxidant which means it can help protect the body from harmful micro-organisms. Because of this antioxidant property, it is also recognized as a helpful tool in preventing the development of cancer cells.

Helps burn fat! Green tea is also good for those people trying to lose or maintain their weight. Green tea has a thermogenic effect that produces heat in the body that results in fat burning. It also initiates faster metabolism causing the body to burn fat at a faster rate.

Controls cholesterol! Green tea thins the blood and decreases the possibility of cholesterol formation inside the blood vessels. Instead of absorbing the cholesterol, green tea prompts the body to increase the amount of fat excreted as waste. This reduces the risks on the heart and blood pressure.

Tea-licious!

Unlike some other things that are healthy, C2 Cool & Clean Green Tea is actually really delicious. People who are used to softdrinks and sweet juices will surely enjoy its light and refreshing taste. It won't be hard to convert to a habit of drinking something healthier and better for you. Even picky children and teenagers may enjoy C2 Cool & Clean Green Tea's yummy taste.

Spa in a Sip

Much like going to the spa, C2 Cool & Clean Green Tea is both relaxing and recharging. Its delicious taste, especially when served cold, is very refreshing while all the real tea benefits make you feel reinvigorated! So anytime you need to feel both refreshed and recharged, a sip of C2 Cool & Clean Green Tea is all you need. It's like experiencing an inner spa.

Tea Take-out

All this goodness is now bottled and ready to be consumed anytime, anywhere. All at a very reasonable price!

C2 Cool & Clean Green Tea is available in convenient and resealable plastic PET bottles. It comes in five delicious flavors: Green Tea Plain, Lemon, Apple, Peach and Iced Tea Lemon. The suggested retail price of the 350 ml bottle is only P10, while the bigger 500 ml is only P15.

It's now available at your favorite supermarkets and convenience stores. So grab a chilled bottle of C2 Cool & Clean Green Tea and enjoy a new kind of healthy refreshment.

Hijack the MTV VJ Hunt Finals Show!

Photos by James Gabrillo and Pepe Diokno

Your Four New MTV VJs

IF CLAIRE is wondering how she got the job… well, fill in the blanks.

DON PUNO looks so happy… to finally be hugging a girl.

LOOK, it's *Ate* Shawie! Wait, no, it's just NICOLE.

LOOK, it's Troy Montero! Wait, no, it's just his brother COLBY.

By Pepe Diokno

THE REPORTS are true. MTV does control minds. It's a secret US Government program, wherein they send subliminal messages through MTV. We know it sounds cliché, and the plot is a tad overused—but that's just what they want you to think.

It has come to our attention that MTV has recently started a new strategy to control the minds of our youth—every two years they employ new innocent "VJ's" to help them in their experiment. Young faces are lured by cash, goodies, and fame to participate in an exercise called, "The MTV VJ Hunt"—which is actually just a test to see who of the prospects they can control the fastest. The people they pick are used as pawns in a mad chess game called, "Get the Oil in Palawan or Something."

MTV has decided to step up its game this year. They have put their VJ Hunt finalists under rigorous tests—frying them, burning them, burying them alive… and zapping their genitals. They have even decided to accept four new ones (instead of the usual two) to speed up their take-over of this generation.

Now, we can't stand for this. The Philippines' oil is the Philippines' oil, Georgy! We had to stop MTV before they hired new VJs. The plan: Sneak backstage (see pictures), kidnap the VJ Hunt finalists, disguise ourselves as pregnant Donita Rose, go on stage, and expose the plans of evil MTV through a short music video by Greenday entitled, "American Idiot."

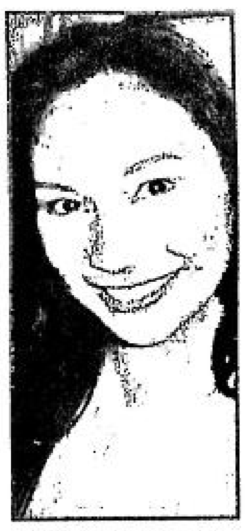
So we bravely infiltrated the venue. We rounded up all the finalists in their dressing room, started tying gags around their mouths, and torturing them with non-stop episodes of "Wowowee." Then VJ Cindy came in—and we couldn't possibly expose her to all this violence. She started screaming gibberish in German, and performing weird gyrations (which, if you watch on April 10, you will see at the top of the show.)

We made a dash to the exit, followed by crazy VJ Cindy. Plan aborted. Damn VJ Cindy, damn.

Catch the 2005 MTV VJ Hunt on MTV Philippines, Sunday, April 10, at 9 p.m.; with replays on Friday, April 15, at 10 p.m., and Sunday, April 17, at 1 a.m.

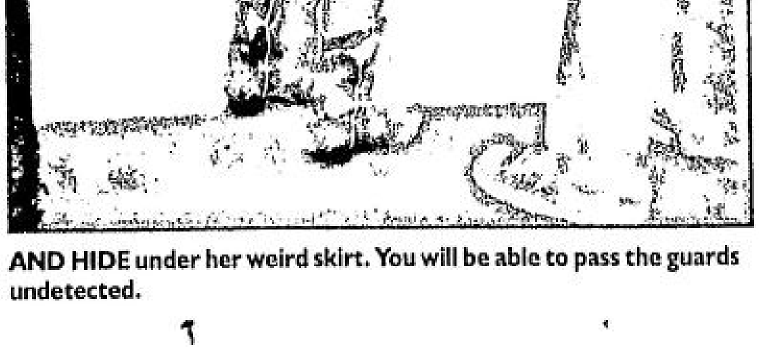
How to Infiltrate the Show

BUMP into Aubrey Miles…

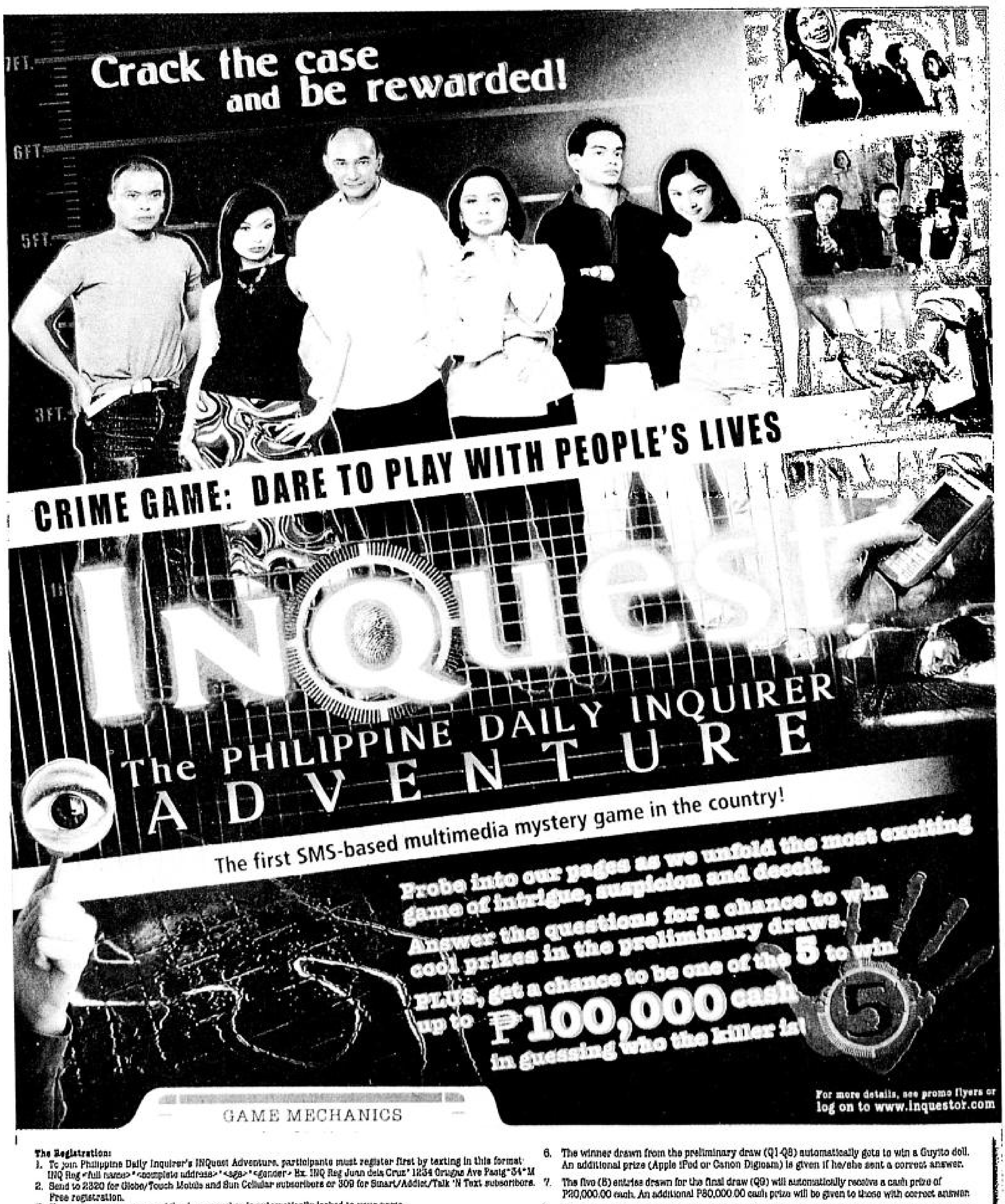


DISGUISE yourself as Patty Laurel to be able to go through the red carpet unnoticed.

THE BACK-UP PLAN: Make friends with the bouncers.



AND HIDE under her weird skirt. You will be able to pass the guards undetected.


Crack the case and be rewarded!
7FT.
6FT.
5FT.
3FT.
CRIME GAME: DARE TO PLAY WITH PEOPLE'S LIVES
INQUEST
The PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER ADVENTURE
The first SMS-based multimedia mystery game in the country!
Probe into our pages as we unfold the most exciting game of intrigue, suspicion and deceit.
Answer the questions for a chance to win cool prizes in the preliminary draws.
PLUS, get a chance to be one of the 5 to win up to ₱100,000 cash in guessing who the killer is!
5
For more details, see promo flyers or log on to www.inquestor.com

GAME MECHANICS

The Registration:

1. To join Philippine Daily Inquirer's INQuest Adventure, participants must register first by texting in this format: INQ Reg <full name>*<complete address>*<age>*<gender> Ex. INQ Reg Juan dela Cruz* 1234 Orugne Ave Pasig*34*M
2. Send to 2320 for Globe/Touch Mobile and Sun Cellular subscribers or 309 for Smart/Addict/Talk 'N Text subscribers. Free registration.
3. Upon registration, your mobile phone number is automatically locked to your name.

The Game:

1. Buy a copy of the Philippine Daily Inquirer to follow the INQuest Adventure Mystery and guess the answer to the questions found at the end of the chapter installments.
2. To help you answer the questions, clues can be found in various sections in Philippine Daily Inquirer, INQuest website or INQTV (every Thursdays, 8 to 9pm at ABC5). To answer, text in this format. INQ Q<question #> <answer> and so on. Ex: INQ Q1 A
3. Participant is allowed a maximum of three (3) answers per question. Each text answer entitles the participant one (1) raffle entry to qualify for the preliminary draws.
4. For each successful text sent, participants will receive a confirmation message. The cost for each successful message sent is P2.50 for Globe/Touch Mobile/Smart/Addict and Talk 'N Text subscribers and P2.00 for Sun Cellular subscribers.
5. There will be a total of eight (8) preliminary draws (1 winner each) and one (1) final draw (5 winners). There will only be one (1) winner per question (preliminary draw) but an individual may win again in the succeeding preliminary draws. Final draw winner can only win once.

Clue	Clue Date	Cut-Off	Draw	Bonus Prizes for Correct Answers
Q1	March 9	March 13	March 14	Apple iPod 20GB
Q2	March 16	March 19	March 28	Canon PowerShot A75
Q3	March 20	March 30	April 4	Apple iPod 20GB
Q4	March 31	April 2	April 4	Canon PowerShot A75
Q5	April 3	April 8	April 11	Apple iPod 20GB
Q6	April 10	April 16	April 18	Canon PowerShot A75
Q7	April 17	April 23	April 25	Apple iPod 20GB
Q8	April 24	April 30	May 2	Canon PowerShot A75
Q9	May 1	May 7	May 9	5 x P80,000.00 Cash

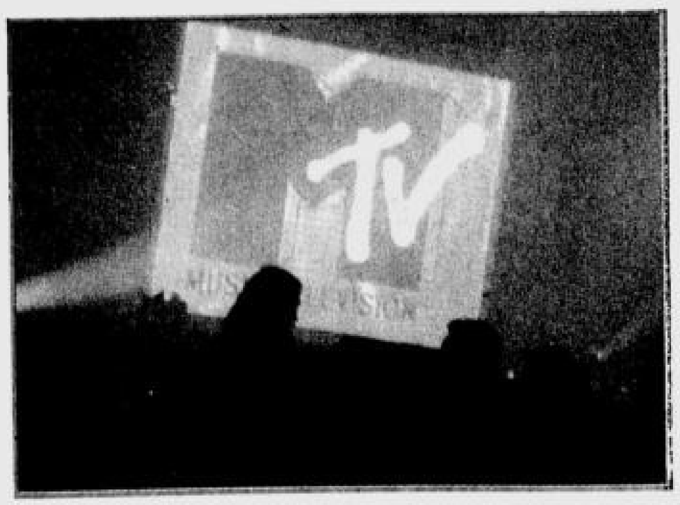
6. The winner drawn from the preliminary draw (Q1-Q8) automatically gets to win a Guyito doll. An additional prize (Apple iPod or Canon Digicam) is given if he/she sent a correct answer.
7. The five (5) entries drawn for the final draw (Q9) will automatically receive a cash prize of P20,000.00 each. An additional P80,000.00 cash prize will be given to those with correct answer.
8. Winners will be notified thru registered mail and names will also be published two (2) days after the draw.
9. Metro Manila preliminary and final draw winners must claim their prizes at the PDI office located at: Chino Roces Ave. cor. Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City.
10. Provincial preliminary draw winners have the option of either claiming their prize in person at the PDI office or have the prize sent to them via courier service. Allow 2-3 weeks for delivery.
11. The following must be presented for verification:
    a. Valid ID with picture (e.g., driver's license, passport, employee ID)
    b. In case valid IDs do not indicate birthdate/age, present a birth certificate
    c. Copy of PDI's notification/confirmation letter
    d. PDI mast head (including date) taken from issue where question was published
12. Prizes must be claimed within sixty (60) days after receipt of confirmation letter. Unclaimed prizes will be forfeited in favor of PDI with prior DTI approval.
13. All prizes are tax free, not transferable and not convertible to cash.
14. The winners declared by PDI, DTI and its representatives are final.
15. All employees of PDI Group of Companies, sponsors of INQuest, their advertising agencies/third party suppliers and their relatives up to the third degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified from joining the promo.
16. Promo period is from March 2 to May 7, 2005.

Per DTI-NCR Permit # 1123, Series of 2005.

VJ NICOLE and her dinner

VJ DON and Chynna Ortaleza frolicking backstage.

THIS isn't paparazzi.



AAAAA! It's a giant logo!

RASHELL still is a winner.

WE LOOK like winners!

LOOK! It's VJ's Marc and Sarah's... backs.

CHARMED ones

PEN & INK • ANTIQUE CRAYON RESIST • TERRACOTTA SCULPTURE • GLUE LINE & OIL PASTEL DRAWING • COLORED PENCIL ON TEXTURED PAPER • IMPASTO • WINDOW JARS • INK & WATERCOLOR • ROCK & WIRE MOBILE •
Enchanted Kingdom
ART JAM
Good Housekeeping
BURGER KING
92.3 Rhythms
Stork House
INQUIRER
Circle C
Bay Radial
PhilOnline
paprika
totalGirl
Eastwood City
BakeShop
BOYSEN
my first Bank
Dreamscape
BASIC DRAWING, PAINTING, AND SCULPTURE & CRAFTS, FOR KIDS 5 - 12 YEARS OLD

THE KIDS AT ART SUMMER WORKSHOP 2005

APRIL 2- MAY 21, 2005

For inquiries or reservations,
CALL 414-1954
OR 375-6275
OR 0918-6988376; 0917-8349525
IN ILOILO, CALL (033) 321-2606;
or 0919-3486337; 0916-3413300
IN TACLOBAN, CALL (053) 523-8216

EARLY REGISTRANTS GET FREE Enchanted Kingdom RIDE-ALL-YOU-CAN TICKETS!

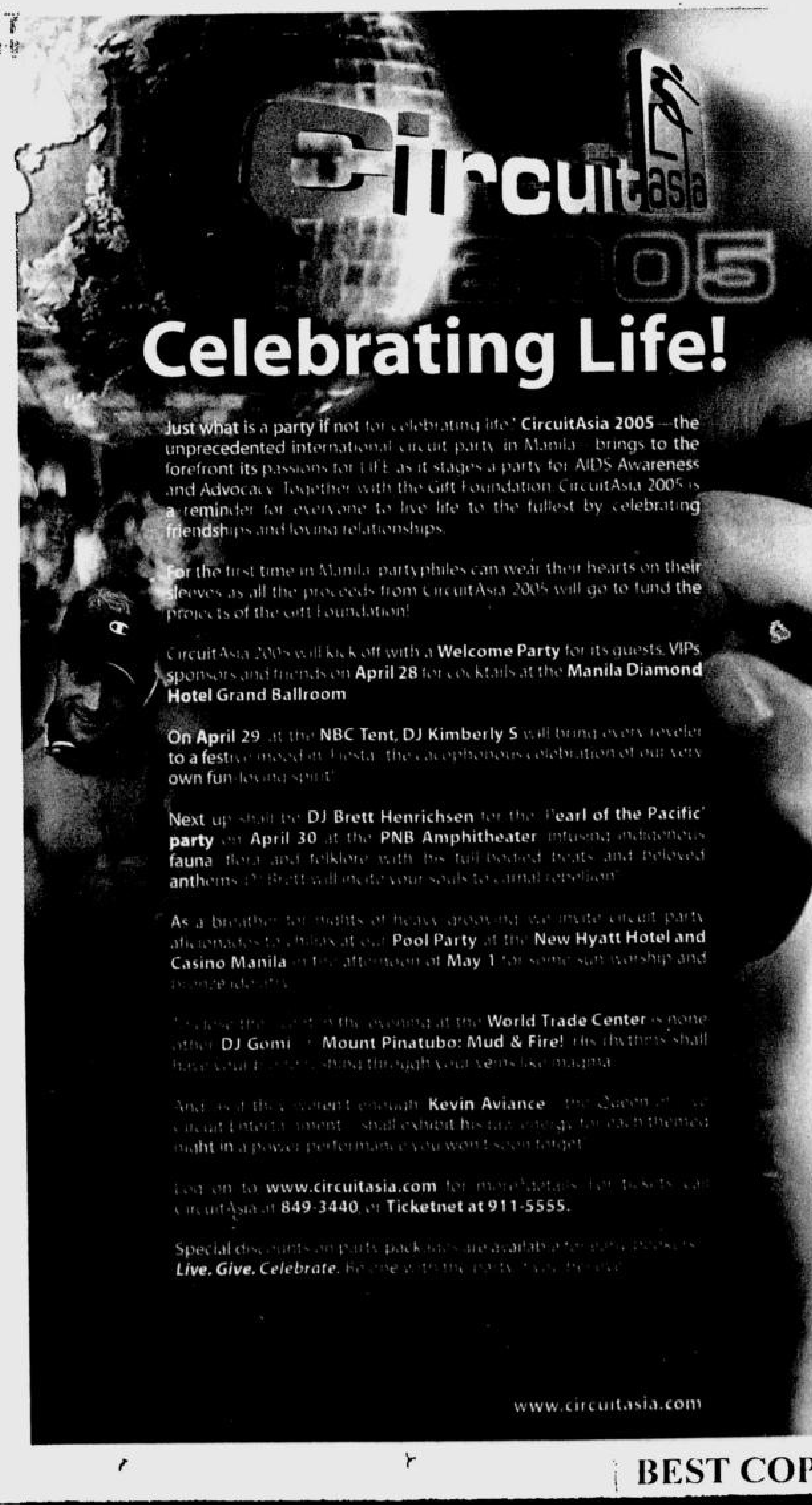
METRO MANILA VENUES:
- Burger King, Marcos Hi-way, Marikina
- Burger King, E. Rodriguez Avenue, Q.C.
- Dreamscape, Robinson's Galleria, Ortigas Avenue
- Celebrity Sports Club, Diliman, Q.C.
- Cinema Lobby, Eastwood City, Libis, QC
- Circle C, Congressional Avenue, Q.C.
- KIDS AT ART Central, Panay Avenue, Q.C.

KIDS AT ART Tacloban
- Stork House Daycare Center, 205 P. Burgos St., Tacloban City Tel #(053) 523-8216
- KIDS AT ART Iloilo Tel # (033) 321-2606; 0919 3486337 0916 3413300

For Tacloban workshop schedules and fees, please call their number.

WORKSHOP SCHEDULES:
15 sessions – MWF 10:00am-12:00nn or 2:00pm-4:00pm
12 sessions – TTH 10:00am-12:00nn or 2:00pm-4:00pm
8 sessions – S 10:00am 12:00nn or 2:00pm-4:00pm
WORKSHOP FEES: 15 sessions – P3,800
12 sessions – P3,300, 8 sessions – P 2500

FEES INCLUDE MATERIALS, T-SHIRT, FRAMING OF BEST WORK, EXHIBITION AND CERTIFICATE



Celebrating Life!

Just what is a party if not for celebrating life? **CircuitAsia 2005** — the unprecedented international circuit party in Manila — brings to the forefront its passions for LIFE as it stages a party for AIDS Awareness and Advocacy. Together with the Gift Foundation, CircuitAsia 2005 is a reminder for everyone to live life to the fullest by celebrating friendships and loving relationships.

For the first time in Manila, partyphiles can wear their hearts on their sleeves as all the proceeds from CircuitAsia 2005 will go to fund the projects of the Gift Foundation!

CircuitAsia 2005 will kick off with a **Welcome Party** for its guests, VIPs, sponsors and friends on **April 28** for cocktails at the **Manila Diamond Hotel Grand Ballroom**

On April 29, at the **NBC Tent, DJ Kimberly S** will bring every reveler to a festive mood at Fiesta, the cacophonous celebration of our very own fun-loving spirit!

Next up shall be **DJ Brett Henrichsen** for the **'Pearl of the Pacific' party** on **April 30** at the **PNB Amphitheater**, infusing indigenous **fauna**, flora and folklore with his full-bodied beats and beloved **anthems**. DJ Brett will incite your souls to carnal rebellion!

As a breather for nights of heavy grooving, we invite circuit party aficionados to chillax at our **Pool Party** at the **New Hyatt Hotel and Casino Manila** on the afternoon of **May 1** for some sun worship and [illegible]

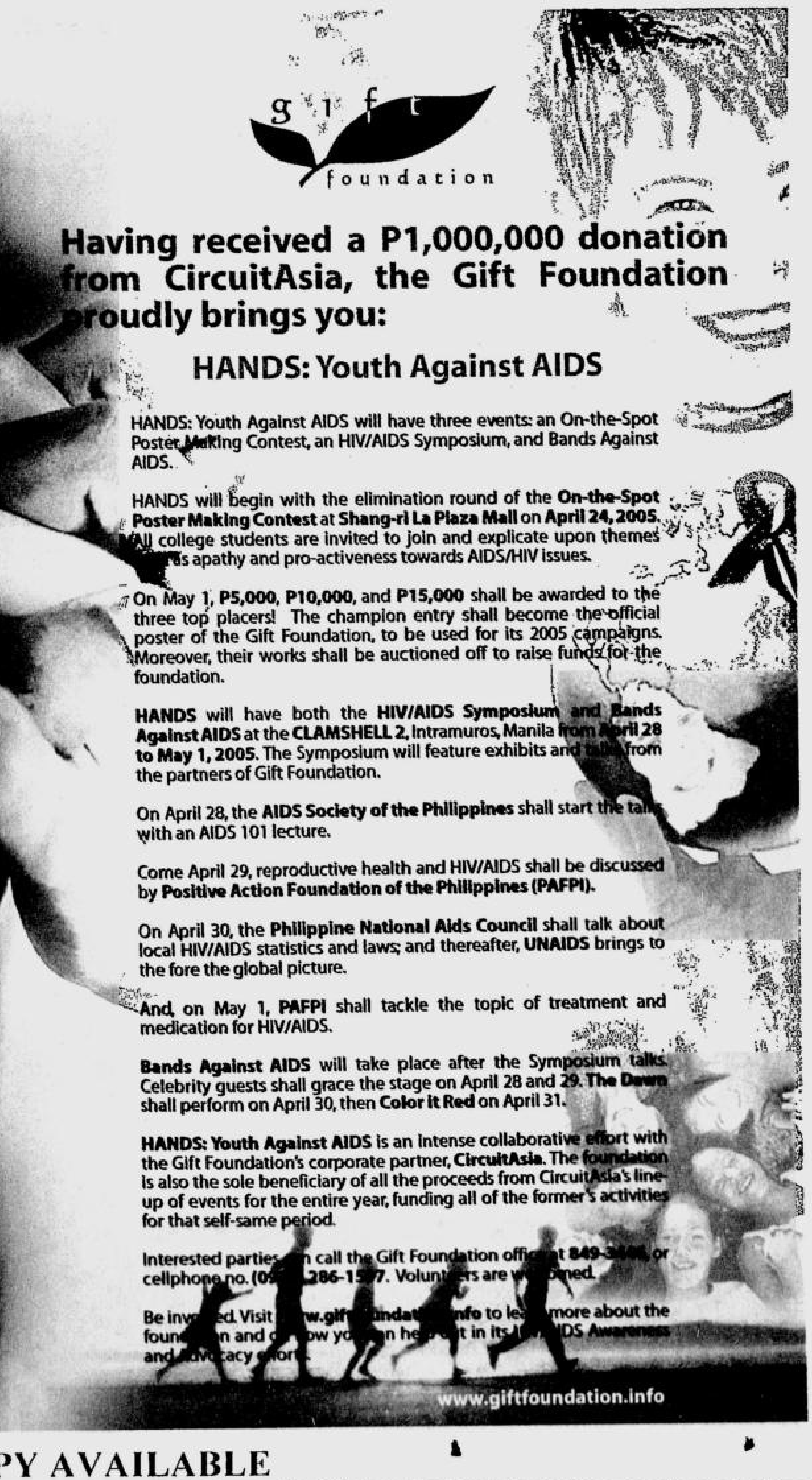
To close the [illegible] the evening at the **World Trade Center** is none other **DJ Gomi** [illegible] **Mount Pinatubo: Mud & Fire!** His rhythms shall have your [illegible] through your veins like magma.

And as if that weren't enough, **Kevin Aviance** — the Queen of [illegible] Circuit Entertainment — shall exhibit his raw energy for each themed night in a power performance you won't soon forget.

Log on to **www.circuitasia.com** for more details. For tickets, call CircuitAsia at **849-3440**, or **Ticketnet at 911-5555.**

Special discounts on party packages are available [illegible]
Live. Give. *Celebrate.* Be one with the party. [illegible]

www.circuitasia.com


gift foundation

Having received a P1,000,000 donation from CircuitAsia, the Gift Foundation proudly brings you:

HANDS: Youth Against AIDS

HANDS: Youth Against AIDS will have three events: an On-the-Spot Poster Making Contest, an HIV/AIDS Symposium, and Bands Against AIDS.

HANDS will begin with the elimination round of the **On-the-Spot Poster Making Contest** at **Shang-ri La Plaza Mall** on **April 24, 2005**. All college students are invited to join and explicate upon themes [illegible] apathy and pro-activeness towards AIDS/HIV issues.

On May 1, **P5,000, P10,000,** and **P15,000** shall be awarded to the three top placers! The champion entry shall become the official poster of the Gift Foundation, to be used for its 2005 campaigns. Moreover, their works shall be auctioned off to raise funds for the foundation.

HANDS will have both the **HIV/AIDS Symposium and Bands Against AIDS** at the **CLAMSHELL 2**, Intramuros, Manila **from April 28 to May 1, 2005**. The Symposium will feature exhibits and talks from the partners of Gift Foundation.

On April 28, the **AIDS Society of the Philippines** shall start the talks with an AIDS 101 lecture.

Come April 29, reproductive health and HIV/AIDS shall be discussed by **Positive Action Foundation of the Philippines (PAFPI).**

On April 30, the **Philippine National Aids Council** shall talk about local HIV/AIDS statistics and laws; and thereafter, **UNAIDS** brings to the fore the global picture.

And, on May 1, **PAFPI** shall tackle the topic of treatment and medication for HIV/AIDS.

Bands Against AIDS will take place after the Symposium talks. Celebrity guests shall grace the stage on April 28 and **29. The Dawn** shall perform on April 30, then **Color It Red** on April 31.

HANDS: Youth Against AIDS is an intense collaborative effort with the Gift Foundation's corporate partner, **CircuitAsia**. The foundation is also the sole beneficiary of all the proceeds from CircuitAsia's line-up of events for the entire year, funding all of the former's activities for that self-same period.

Interested parties can call the Gift Foundation office at **849-[illegible]**, or cellphone no. **(0[illegible]) 286-1[illegible]7**. Volunteers are welcomed.

Be involved. Visit **www.giftfoundation.info** to learn more about the foundation and on how you can help out in its [illegible] **AIDS Awareness** and Advocacy efforts.

www.giftfoundation.info

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

8MCDO A/4
Call! McDo DELIVERY
8-6236
McDo

Now, you can order McDo via text and pay with G-Cash!

McDonald's Delivery Service
Dial 8-McDo
CALL / TEXT
DELIVERY
with
G CASH

Just text these keywords to 6236:

8MCDO REG jer terciano/ 8005467/5 EDSA Ext., QC
Ok Back

To register:
Text **8MCDO REG <name>/<landline> /<delivery address>** to **6236**.
Registration is FREE.

8MCDO
Ok Back

To download the menu:
Text **8MCDO** to **6236**.
Note: Save this text for future orders.

8MCDO A/4
Ok Back

To place a single order:
Text **8MCDO <menu choice>/<quantity>** to **6236**.

8MCDO A/3/B/3
Ok Back

To place multiple orders:
Text **8MCDO <menu choice>/ <quantity>/<menu choice>/ <quantity>** to **6236**.

8MCDO
PAY GCASH
Ok Back

To confirm/pay order via G-Cash:
Text **8MCDO PAY GCASH** to **6236**.

There is a minimum P150 delivery purchase.

Rate: P2.50 per transaction to 6236
Note: McDonald's deliveries can also be paid using cash.

Register to G-Cash by texting G-CASH to 2882

Get 1 large McDonald's fries FREE with every CALL OR TEXT delivery order using G-Cash!

MAGPA-DELIVER NA!
Text 8MCDO to 6236 or CALL 8-MCDO (8-6236).
You can also dial 8-6236 and pay via G-Cash.
Dial 02-8-6236 from your Globe Handyphone.

love ko 'to

Also available on:
TM
Ang Bagong Touch Mobile

making great things possible Globe HANDYPHONE

Promo runs from March 19 to April 19, 2005. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1307, Series of 2005.

Super 2

E-mail: super@inquirer.com.ph

Text us your feedback: inquirer sup name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

pop culture . entertainment . recreation

Hot, and getting hotter all the time

TRANSCENDANT. Nina wearing Wendy Puyat-Hotung's "Starlet" Line

By Tim Yap
Photos by Jake Versoza

SELLING more than hot cakes, Breadtalk and Happy Meals, "Nina Live!" the album has kicked Michael Buble's balls to clinch the number 1 slot in all record outlets (Tower, Music One, Odyssey, name it!) nationwide, making Nina—yes, I still don't know her surname—the hottest creature on this side of our musical planet!

She made temperatures rise when she went sexy with her video—but that's nothing compared to the kind of soul that this siren unleashes whenever she sings torch favorites from Chaka Khan and Brenda Russell. Scorching—that's the space she has reached where every kid wants to be—on top.

The bosses of Warner Music knew right away that they had a gem in this girl that is making the most waves in OPM today. Hit after hit, she has carved her own niche in the industry and is now about to release a special DVD recording of her live performance—better watch out for that.

Here in Super! we like to chart successful people's growths and so we ran through our archives for Nina spottings (through opaque stockings, big hair and bushy eyebrows) and made her sign the Super! guest book. So, like the baby in that milk commercial, we say, "Nina, you're number one!"

HOT/ D3

SITTINGS EDITOR: DAVID MILAN
STYLING BY TINA DANIAC
MAKE UP BY YZA PALMERO OF SHU UEMURA

PLDT vibe Internet

Subscribing to
PLDT Vibe
Promo Plan 99*
just got faster and easier.

For only ₱99 a month, you get 99++ hours** of Internet access.

- Rates as low as prepaid cards!
- Faster than other top prepaid Internet cards

APPLY NOW!

Get wired to Vibe, the fast and easy way to get you surfing in no time.

Your home telephone number: ____
Your name: (anyone in the family over 12 yrs. old can apply)
____
Last First MI.
Your relationship to the Subscriber on Record: (the name in the PLDT bill) ____
Your home address: ____
Your mobile phone no.: ____
Your birthdate (MM/DD/YY): ____
Sign here: ✓ ____

Write 3 choices of your log-on username. Make sure your username has 6-10 alphanumeric characters. For example, michael88.

1st Choice: ____
2nd Choice: ____
3rd Choice: ____

NOW FAX THIS FORM TO (02)864-3461.

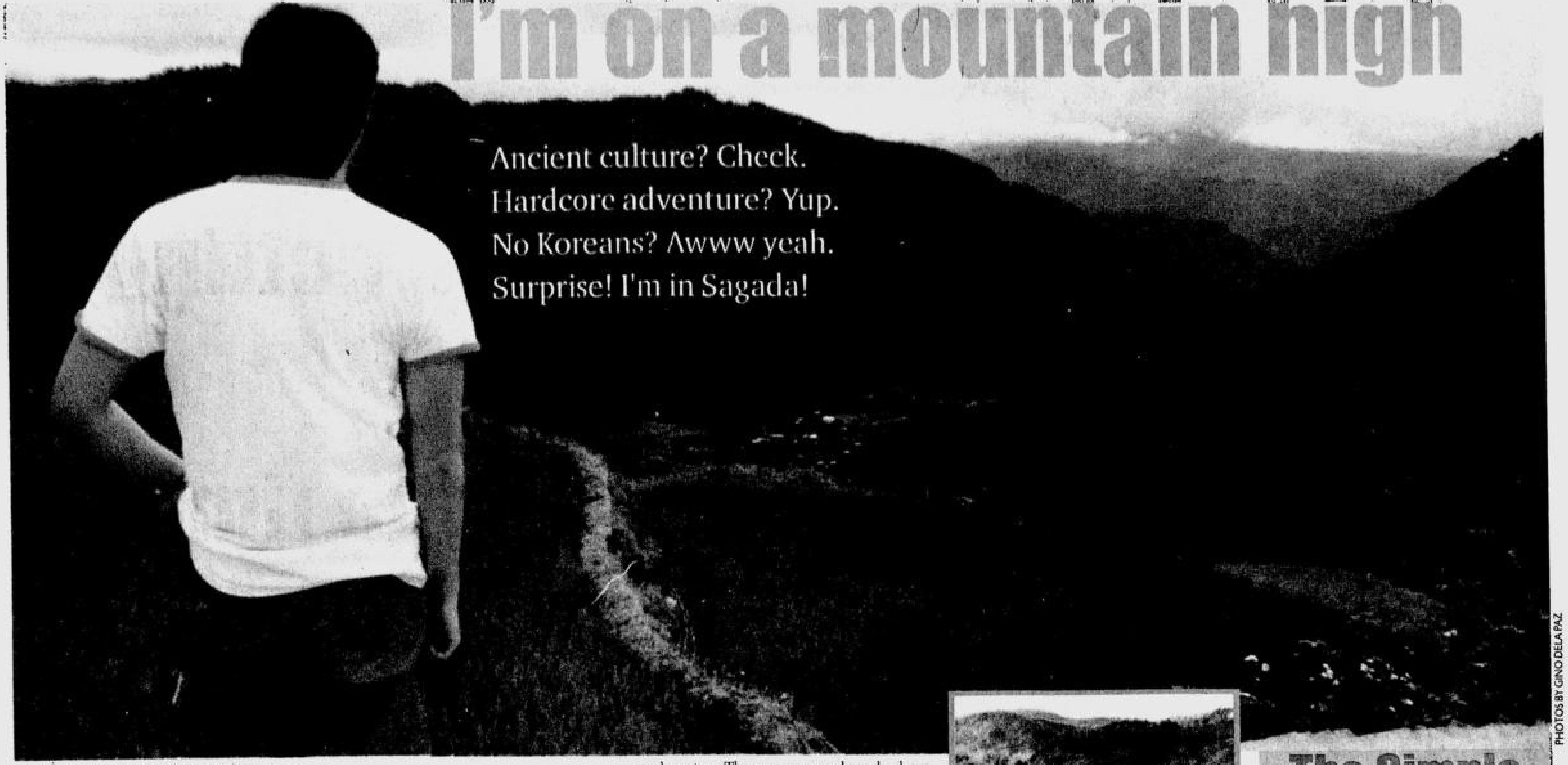
LOCK-IN PERIOD NOW WAIVED as approved by DTI
[illegible]

PLDT

CARRY MO 'TO!
Refreshing goodness in easy-carry 500mL bottle.
Calamansi SODA
frutZoda
dalandan SODA
Root beer
ORANGE Squiz
Originals from
ZESTO

I'm on a mountain high

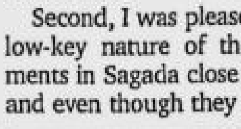
Ancient culture? Check.
Hardcore adventure? Yup.
No Koreans? Awww yeah.
Surprise! I'm in Sagada!



PHOTOS BY GINO DELA PAZ

Age against the machine

Gino de la Paz



AS I'VE learned from Jack Kerouac, Paul Theroux, and not a few episodes of "Globe Trekker," it's futile and at times impossible to resist the lure of the road.

While the rest of you young 'uns were getting trashed on overpriced drinks and OD'ing on designer drugs in Boracay, I was getting trashed on cheap beer and OD'ing on awful music somewhere in Bulacan. I know, I know. The analogy is kinda off but hey, I was in a jampacked bus, bound for the Cordillera region of the Philippines.

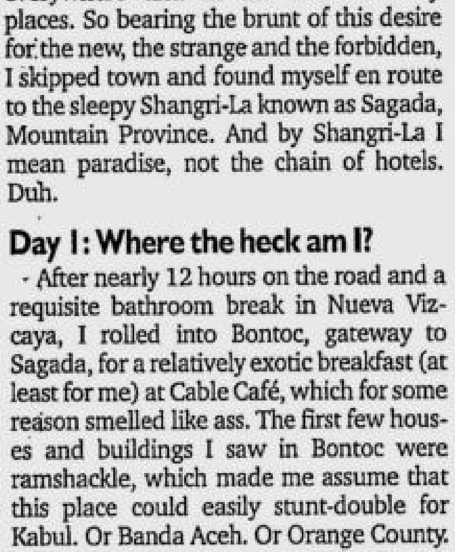
See, my wanderlust is back—like, in the biblical sense—and it has turned me into the human equivalent of lint, popping up everywhere and in the most unlikely places. So bearing the brunt of this desire for the new, the strange and the forbidden, I skipped town and found myself en route to the sleepy Shangri-La known as Sagada, Mountain Province. And by Shangri-La I mean paradise, not the chain of hotels. Duh.

Day 1: Where the heck am I?

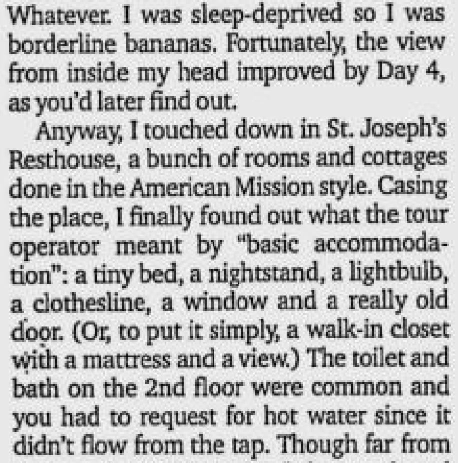
After nearly 12 hours on the road and a requisite bathroom break in Nueva Vizcaya, I rolled into Bontoc, gateway to Sagada, for a relatively exotic breakfast (at least for me) at Cable Café, which for some reason smelled like ass. The first few houses and buildings I saw in Bontoc were ramshackle, which made me assume that this place could easily stunt-double for Kabul. Or Banda Aceh. Or Orange County. Whatever. I was sleep-deprived so I was borderline bananas. Fortunately, the view from inside my head improved by Day 4, as you'd later find out.

Anyway, I touched down in St. Joseph's Resthouse, a bunch of rooms and cottages done in the American Mission style. Casing the place, I finally found out what the tour operator meant by "basic accommodation": a tiny bed, a nightstand, a lightbulb, a clothesline, a window and a really old door. (Or, to put it simply, a walk-in closet with a mattress and a view.) The toilet and bath on the 2nd floor were common and you had to request for hot water since it didn't flow from the tap. Though far from the can in "Trainspotting," the weathered washroom set-up still called for a slight makeover. "The Simple Life: Sagada"? Booyah! Thank God I brought some Lysol.

A couple hours later, I had the option to either go spelunking in Sumaging Cave or go sight-seeing around Sagada. Since a) my Nike ACG sandals suddenly died on me and b) I was vaguely hung over and therefore prone to cracking my skull in said cave, I picked the latter. (Besides, bathing in bat shit was not in my to-do list.) The 3-hour walking tour first took me to Echo Valley and its famous hanging coffins. The ancient rock formations looked like melted chess pieces that somehow jutted out from Middle Earth. Before this, I smoked my brains out. Kidding.



DON'T go chasing waterfalls



DREAM weavers

MY RAY of light photo, taken by my new friend Mia at Mt. Ampacao

Next, my guide and I headed down the road to Sagada Weaving before doubling back to see even more burial coffins at Lumiang Cave, southwest of the municipality. Since the terrain in Ambasing wasn't like those pretend-mountains in a wall-climbing gym, hiking down the steep, rocky path wasn't safe and required maximum concentration, a couple liters of water and adequate life insurance.

Day 2: What have I done?

Despite the previous day's mileage, I woke up the following morning weirdly refreshed and willing to subject myself to even more physical abuse. Going against all forms of human logic, I joined a trip to the big waterfalls at Bomod-ok.

Yeah, I was in for another 2-hour trek from the hotel to the the drop-off point. Piece of cake, except I was in board shorts and Havaianas and not in cargoes and hiking boots. (Bright as a roll of duct tape, I completely forgot I had to cross these things called MOUNTAINS first before I could take a dip in the lake.) Meh.

Feeling like the llama from "The Emperor's New Groove," I trudged down 1,600 steps. (To playfully diffuse the tension, someone actually counted.) With acres of sky above me, I passed by several indigenous houses, ogled at pristine rice terraces and gave in to the Cordillera's voodoo love spell. Made vulnerable in a way I had never considered possible, I was humbled by the experience. There I was, a mere speck in the midst of Mother Nature's vastness, finding his place in the world. Then I almost slipped on a rock and started cursing and flipping the bird at everyone in sight. So much for Zen-like introspection, eh?

For many, the trail to and from the Bomod-ok Waterfalls is a profound death wish waiting to happen. I couldn't agree more. However, the sense of accomplishment one gets—from completing the hike down, taking a dip in the lake and surviving the brutal climb up—makes the 5-hour day trip even more worthwhile. If you live to brag about it, that is.

To reward ourselves, my fellow survivors and I decided to do some damage and *partay*. Then we remembered where we were and settled for a few warm beers at Shamrock Café. According to Sagada locals, the Kankana-ey, one must stop by this place even if it's just for a cup of mountain tea. It's nothing more than a few rickety benches by the side of a dirt road, but we still managed to have some fun, so much that we now think Shamrock Café is the Embassy of Sagada. Hoo-hah!

Day 3: What have I done again?

Being a dedicated bargain-hunter, I really looked forward to Sagada's lively Saturday Market. But since President GMA decided to grace my holiday with her presence that day, the usual set-up was modified, effectively ruining that phase of my trip. Rats.

But also being the very definition of a good sport, I signed up for a sunset hike at Mt. Ampacao instead. I've endured all the boundary-pushing treks so far so taking a wild swing at this mountain range should be a cinch. Or not.

Our guide promised a brief and fairly laid-back stroll. What he didn't mention was that it was a brief and fairly laid-back stroll *for locals*. Across *numerous giant mountains*. So on the third mountain out of the four we needed to climb, the less suicidal among us decided to park, rest and bitch about our respective lapses in judgment. That and the fact that everything on this trip was suspiciously "45 minutes away" or "highly recommended." *Hoookay*.

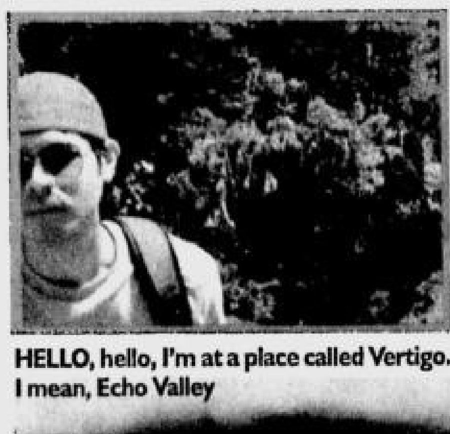
Though it wasn't the one we originally set out to see, the sunset we caught was probably as breathtaking and pleasing to the eye—and the soul—as any other natural wonder. I really don't think I missed out on any major news flash. But seriously, it was so pretty my balls rushed up my throat. Well, so to speak.

Day 4: I'm a born-again traveler!

Holding fast to tradition in the face of adversity and modernity, Sagada schooled me big time. First of all, since the municipality is not Catholic, it was refreshing to be exposed to another belief system, that of pagan rice gods and nature spirits. For once I didn't feel like I was being preached upon by some holier-than-thou religious institution.

Second, I was pleased to be part of the low-key nature of the place. Establishments in Sagada close promptly at 9 p.m. and even though they could stay open till much later, the locals have rejected the commercialism of mainstream tourist attractions. More than that, I felt safe knowing that I wasn't being charged a higher rate for goods and services just because I was obviously a faux backpaker. Like, yeah.

Last, my Sagada saga has taught me that there are other fascinating destinations in the Philippines waiting to be discovered and appreciated. At a time when most young people segue into summer by crowding well-known beaches, it was awesome to challenge my own comfort zone and experience something rustic, eclectic and unpredictable. Okay, I really don't mean to get all mushy and crap but as someone who has lived a chunk of his life in other countries, I have become an unlikely fan of Sagada. In fact, with all the domestic traveling I've been doing lately, I can even say that I'm really falling in love with the Philippines as well.

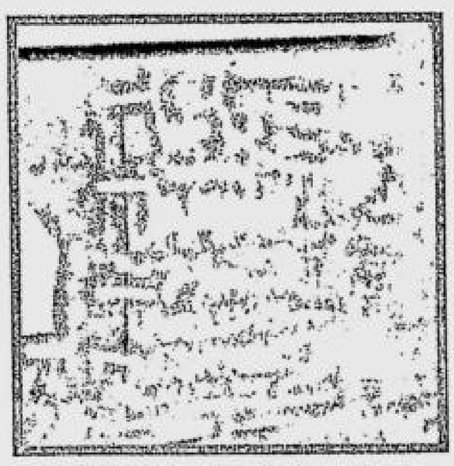


HELLO, hello, I'm at a place called Vertigo. I mean, Echo Valley

A SLEEPY Shangri-La

RICE, rice baby

SAGADA street style



NIGHT life with a time limit

The Simple Life: Sagada

Unlike a trip to the beach, a journey to Sagada comes with a whole new set of rules

1. Because of previous landslides, roads to Sagada are narrow so don't be shocked if the bus you ride isn't Greyhound-size. Suck it up. You'll live.
2. Be prepared to go back in time when in Sagada. There are no ATMs, no convenience stores, no pulsating night life. Don't forget your iPod, some books or magazines and lively company.
3. Speaking of prehistory, during the peak season, Globe puts up a temporary satellite and service only lasts from 8am till 8pm. Smart subscribers have better service while Sun Cellular subscribers can always rely on smoke signals.
4. For some reason, they serve yogurt everywhere, especially in, uh, Yogurt House. But if you're in the mood for some local food, try *itag*, smoked pork that tastes like bacon. While you're at it, say hey to Janice Gulian, owner of St. Joe's Café, Alfredo's Restaurant and Log Cabin. She's cool and can answer most of your questions about Sagada and life in general.
5. Excluding accommodation and transportation costs, P2,500-P3,000 is enough for 4 days of sight-seeing, eating and uhm, more sight-seeing. Bring a bit more if you wanna crate home some Sagada souvenirs, which range from P10 for a bag of mountain tea leaves to P4,000 for pottery. Ganduyan has a wide selection of goodies but you can also hit RJ Souvenirs and the basement of Traveller's Inn. However, there are tons of souvenir stores in Bontoc and Banaue so don't go postal if you miss out on something. Warning: they don't know the meaning of the words "Visa" and "Mastercard" in Sagada.
6. I was walking around in a tank, shorts and flip-flops most of the time, but that's me. I suggest you bring along a light fleece or hoodie, comfy walking shoes, cargo shorts, lots of cotton t-shirts and SPF 70. It gets relatively chilly early in the morning but the temperature also shoots up during the day.
7. Come to Sagada with an open mind and a fit body. Leave those high expectations at home and you'll be guaranteed a unique mountain high.

For more information on Sagada as well as other local and foreign destinations, contact Pagan Nomads Tour Management and Travel Consultancy.

Tel/Fax: (632) 411-8359
Mobile: 63 920-8353761
Email: info@gonomads.com
Website: www.gonomads.com

Daily departures are ongoing for the Sagada, Banaue + Batad Tour.

Lakbay Cordillera: A Journey to the Land of the Gods, April 21-24, 2005.

Ifugao Cultural Trek and Exposure, May 2005.

A bear hug to Roel Villacorta, Jesi Dimaisip, Mia Cuenco, Joey Caparas, Eva Rivera, Karen Kue, Joel Nuñez, Don Perez, the bus driver dude who insisted on playing country music, like, really really loud while we were all trying to sleep at 4 a.m., and all the Sagada Survivors 2005.

Hot, and getting hotter all the time

From page D1

The thing about fame is that... It can make or break you.

The thing I love most about what I do is... That I get paid and still love what I do.

People might be surprised to know that... I eat a lot.

The most important thing I've ever learned is that... No matter how hard a person is to you, you should forgive him. Because that's what God has planned to do.

I wish when I started off I've been told to... Take it easy.

The worst thing that ever happened to me was when... I got majorly sick and lost my voice before the day of a big event.

And what taught this to me was... To not overwork and overschedule... I should work to live not live to work (thanks tita Helen).

The secret to happiness is... being innocent like a child enjoying every minute of everyday.

My best ever outfit consisted of... Long cape with a sequined gold bra top

My Super! Saturday night consists of... Having a chat over coffee with my closest friends.

The soundtrack to my life would include... Through the Rain

If I was invisible for a day, I would... Try to take a look what Bin laden is planning next.

The thing that makes me most angry is... not being able to sleep due to noise.

If I was the most powerful person on earth... There'd be no people suffering from poverty and war.

The best thing about family is that... They'd stick it out with you whatever happens.

When I'm gone, they'll probably say... I miss the smile, the laughter, the voice of the soul siren NINA.

If money was no option... I'd plant and hunt for food.

When I retire, I would like... To live peacefully in my dream house with my dream husband and kids very much taken care of by me.

The world would be a much better place if... Everybody would easily forgive each other.

My hero is... my first love.

The thing that makes my life worth living is... My fans, my family and my true friends

My greatest hope for the future is... Success and more blessings for me and my family

The worst thing somebody said about me was... That I was pregnant.

My favorite moments are when... I watch dolphins with my family and when I celebrate my birthday.

My most embarrassing moment was when... My mic got screwed up while I was performing.

I'm saving up for... My future

My biggest indulgence is... A choco caramel cake

My current state of mind is... focusing on everything I do.

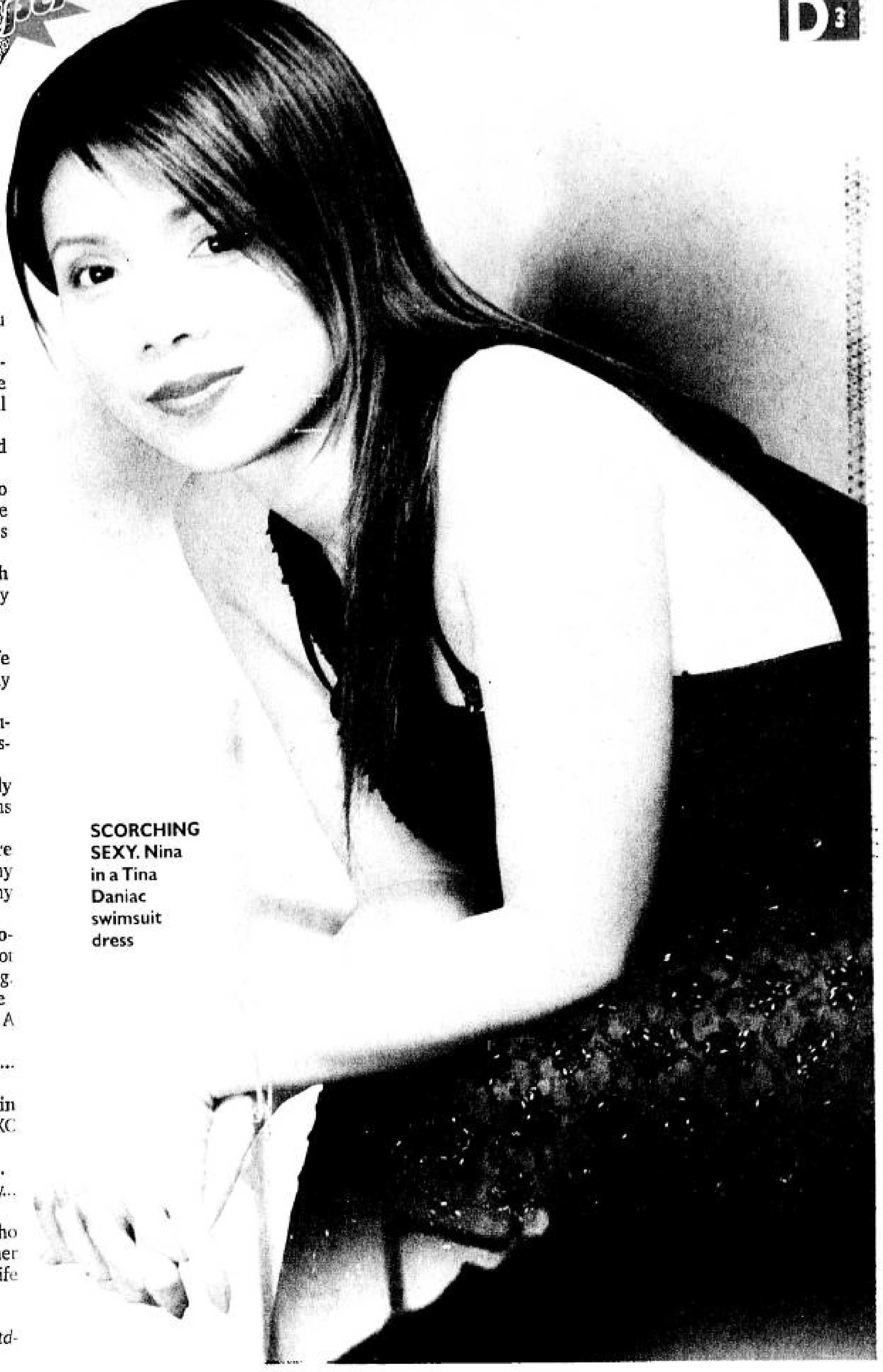
If someone would play me in my biopic, it would be... KC Concepcion

My five favorite words are...

Oh my god! Fudge! Infinity... and everything, GI ATAY (yaya)

I aspire to be... A person who could inspire children and other to do well in whatever path in life they partake.

(email me at supertim@pldtdsl.net)



SCORCHING SEXY. Nina in a Tina Daniac swimsuit dress

I KNOW I'm hot

BETCHA by ballet, wow!

I'M A SWAN

IN SPORTSWEAR

CONTEST form

MIC' KO to

FAME! I'm gonna live forever...

FLOWER power kid

80's FASHIONINA mode

Gardenia
Dinner Roll
Gardenia
Dinner Roll
200g

Gardenia introduces its crème de la crème of dinner rolls ... Gardenia Dinner Roll!

Experience the softness and creamy goodness of Gardenia Dinner Roll. It's a delightful treat on its own and a perfect complement to numerous of your favorite dishes.

It adds a festive flair to your fried chicken, pasta dishes, soups and salads. Its melt-in-your-mouth softness and rich creamy taste make dinners, parties, and even breakfasts and snacks sumptuously satisfying.

Once you've tasted its delightful blend of softness and creaminess, you won't settle for anything else.

Deals in Heat
Hot Lines
Have a sizzling summer with the newest and hottest handsets from Addict Mobile.
MOTOROLA V3
FREE @
PLAN 5000
NOKIA 9500
FREE @
PLAN 5000
PALM TREO 650
FREE @
PLAN 5000
NOKIA 6630
FREE @
PLAN 3500
O2 MINI
FREE @
PLAN 5000
SMART 258
SMART MultiLINE SIM
POWERED BY SMART
addict
Get hooked.

E-mail: super@inquirer.com.ph
Text us your feedback: inquirer sup name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Your Man about Town needs your Super! questions! Bombard his inbox at bohemiansamurai@yahoo.com.

The Cruel Algebra of Love

DIGITAL ARTWORK BY MARTIN VALDES

Man about town

Chuck Dy

Dear Man About Town,

Do you believe in One True Love? Because the love of my life has left me. Not for another woman—that would be too easy to get over—but for another life in another country. We have been dating for seven months, and while some people may claim that this is too short a time to really recognize that "special someone", I believe with all my heart that he is the one I was meant to be with. He leaves in two months to finish his studies and then to work for his family business based in Europe.

He asked me to come but I simply cannot leave Manila because of family responsibilities. And since he does not believe in long-distance relationships, he said it was probably better if we just made a "clean break". I know that this is probably the smart thing to do, but it doesn't make it any easier to accept.

How can I get over this heartache—and all my friends say I will after a few months—if I really think that he is the perfect match for me? How can I move on if I know that the man I'm supposed to be with is not by my side?

ACCORDING to an Internet counter on one website dedicated to roughly estimating the population of the Earth at any given moment, the planet is host to 6,509,409,546 people as of 3:30 p.m. eastern time, March 28, 2005. This counter increases by around 3 units every second, which means that by the time you finish this sentence, there will be enough humans born in that miniscule duration to form a basketball team.

This raises some interesting points such as, "how do they calculate the birth rate as opposed to death rate to arrive at 3 people per second?" or "who bothers thinking this crap up?", and most significantly, "who will all these new humans vote for on American Idol?" Tantalizing stuff really.

It also calls into question the validity and romance of the One True Love. Let's do the math.

There are six and a half billion people currently converting oxygen. According to further statistics, three-fifths of the world population is female, meaning you're left with just over two and a half billion men to choose from. Deduct the underage boys and the extremely geriatric, along with the married, the mentally deranged, the Catholic priests, and the criminally violent, and you should be left with about (and I'm guessing at this point), a billion.

As an added modifier, let's disqualify that huge chunk of men you will NEVER meet anyway due to geographic, language or time constraints. Finally, from the remaining field of potential suitors, let's remove the gay men. As I can find no resources to estimate this demographic, I'm going to say you've still got a fair amount of straight, nominally sane, sperm producing males left to contemplate, and who may reciprocally consider you as a perfect match.

So you see, the first obstacle of serious consideration towards the possibility of the One True Love is that it literally is a one-in-a-few-million lottery. You have to consider the immense amount of good fortune or, if you believe this sort of thing, destiny involved with finding the perfect match given the sheer magnitude of men out there. It's worse than finding a needle in the haystack; it's finding a needle in a stack of needles. A girl's got to endure a lot of pinheads and pricks.

A perfect match

Now if the romantic supposition of the One True Love was more than just a notion and was actually a provable fact of human existence, if by some fantastic science they are able to demonstrate that two people are indeed meant for each other in the most biological of senses, I believe that the entire human race will come to an abrupt end. On the occasion that CNN or The Scientific American excitedly publishes its findings that through comprehensive DNA testing or through an accidental CAT scan of a deliriously happy couple, they have discovered that there is such a thing as the perfect match, I believe that we will all be dead soon after. Dead. Like my big toe nail.

There are certain things Man is not supposed to know for certain. Or better yet, there are certain things Man is supposed to earn the right to know for certain. The existence of God, the attainment of world peace, and the One True Love. These are concepts that should never be compromised or cheapened by convenient access, because by their very essence, they can only be realized through a process. Like jealous deities, these abstractions demand sacrifice, and diligence, and allegiance, before the miracles and bounty can be witnessed. They are the fuel in the engines of human evolution and it is not the knowledge of them that drives us, but the process of searching for them that makes us worthier people. The answer is only satisfying when the right question is asked.

Because it hurts like a serrated knife sawing slowly through your shinbone when you're apart, it appears obvious, to you, that what you are suffering is a symptom of true love. Because his arms melded seamlessly into the contour of your body, or your conversations were almost poetic in cadence and resonance, or he smelled like freshly sharpened Mongol pencils (which happens to drive you insane with lust), you assume it must be true love. Unfortunately, such symptoms are hardly accurate indicators of a proper diagnosis. I suffer such bouts of polarized emotion all the time; whether it's on a date or when I have too much to drink. Heck, I feel like I could marry this cup of coffee I'm sipping right now.

Which is not to say that you're wrong about this guy being the One amongst the millions out there. It seems evident that he must be special if

THE CRUEL/ E3

DISNEY PRESENTS A PIXAR FILM
THE INCREDIBLES

Own the original VCD or Disney DVD of 2005 Oscar's Best Animated Film and Best Sound Editing
Only P900
Only P275
Available at all Viva Video Outlets nationwide!

DOWNLOAD YOUR WAY TO INCREDIBLE PRIZES!

Get the chance to win one of 5 Incredible Family vacations or one of 200 VCD copies of the movie every time you download with your Gizmo

Promo runs from March 15 to April 15, 2005, valid for Metro Manila residents only. See flyers for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1461, Series of 2005

WALLPAPERS
W jackeat
W inctitle
W miragesolo
W strongmrinc
W violetaction

LOGOS
L movielogo
L dashrun
L ilogo
L ednaface
L ijack

TEXT CARDS
TC dash
TC edna
TC frozone
TC jack
TC ipic

ANIMATED WALLPAPERS
MMS mrincrescue
MMS violetsolo
MMS jackbday
MMS thatsinc
MMS mrincpunch

TONES

SONG TITLE	KEYWORD
The Glory Days	glorydays
Life's Incredible	incredible
Kronos Unveiled	kronos
Road Trip	roadtrip

For Ringtones: key in N <keyword>
(Ex. N glorydays)
For Polytones: key in P <keyword>
(Ex. P glorydays)

GLOBE GIZMO PREPAID
DISCOVER.CONNECT.PLAY

Just text <keyword> to 2802
(Ex. text P glorydays to 2802)

To access other Globe Gizmo downloads:
- Go to <Globe Services+>
- Click on <myFavorites>
- Select <Globe Gizmo>
- Select <Play>

Use the super powers of your MMS Phone for colored downloads!
Logos, text cards, & ringtones can also be downloaded with a non-MMS phone.

Rates: *P15 for logos, text cards & ringtones*
P20 for wallpapers, animated wallpapers & polytones

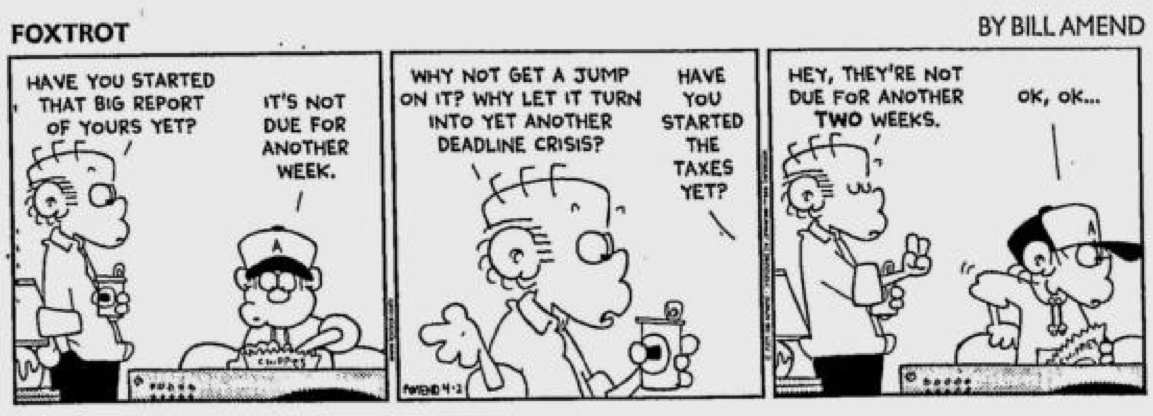
JOIN VIVA VIDEO'S SUPER FAMILY CHALLENGE PROMO!
Buy the VCD or DVD and get the chance to be one of 30 families to win a 2-day vacation at the Caliraya Recreation Center on June 11 and 12, 2005. Be our SUPER INCREDIBLE FAMILY and win a trip for four to Disneyland, Hong Kong.

Promo runs from March 15 to May 15, 2005. See flyers for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1411, Series of 2005

Disney MOBILE
VIVA VIDEO, INC.
CALIRAYA
making a great summer possible Globe HANDYPHONE

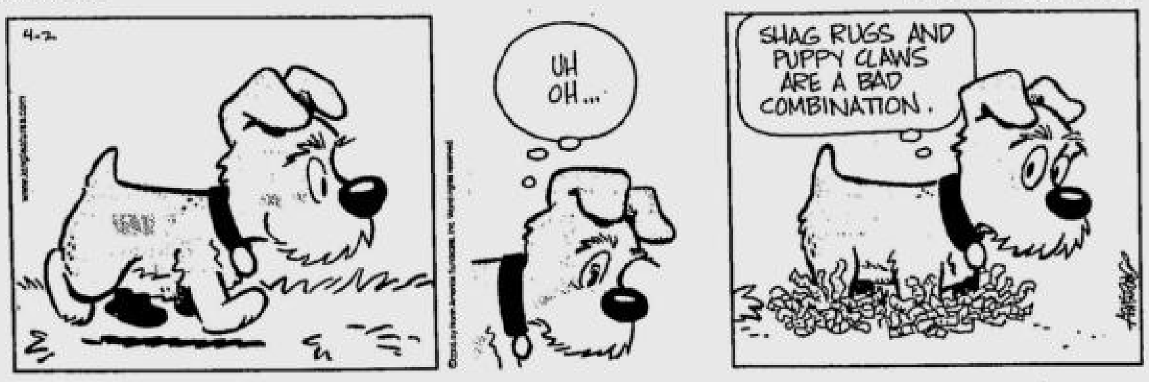
FOXTROT

BY BILL AMEND


HAVE YOU STARTED THAT BIG REPORT OF YOURS YET?
IT'S NOT DUE FOR ANOTHER WEEK.
WHY NOT GET A JUMP ON IT? WHY LET IT TURN INTO YET ANOTHER DEADLINE CRISIS?
HAVE YOU STARTED THE TAXES YET?
HEY, THEY'RE NOT DUE FOR ANOTHER TWO WEEKS.
OK, OK...

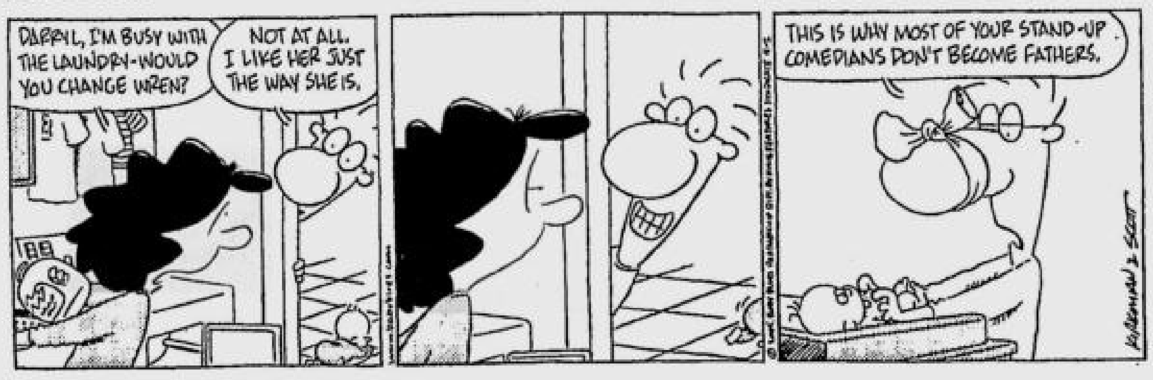
MARVIN

BY TOM ARMSTRONG


4-2
UH OH...
SHAG RUGS AND PUPPY CLAWS ARE A BAD COMBINATION.

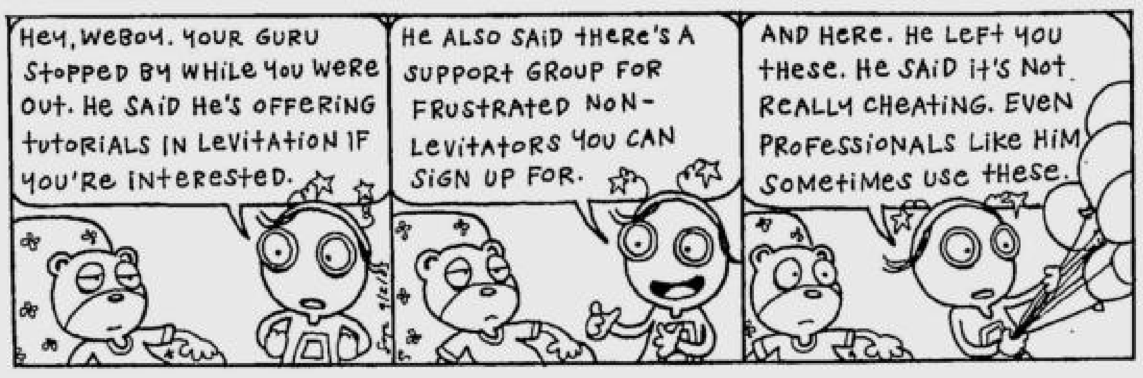
BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


DARRYL, I'M BUSY WITH THE LAUNDRY-WOULD YOU CHANGE WREN?
NOT AT ALL. I LIKE HER JUST THE WAY SHE IS.
THIS IS WHY MOST OF YOUR STAND-UP COMEDIANS DON'T BECOME FATHERS.

ATOMO AND WEBOY

BY LYRA GARCELLANO


Hey, Weboy. Your guru stopped by while you were out. He said he's offering tutorials in levitation if you're interested.
He also said there's a support group for frustrated non-levitators you can sign up for.
And here. He left you these. He said it's not really cheating. Even professionals like him sometimes use these.

HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

YOU BORN TODAY: You're extremely idealistic! Some feel you have childlike expectations of the world. You see it as having faith in your future. You are family-oriented. You're definitely well-loved by others. You're hardworking; nevertheless, you have a wide range of emotional expression. Work hard to build and construct things this year for benefits in 2006!

Birthdate of Marvin Gaye, singer; Linda Hunt, actress; Hans Christian Andersen, author.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19): You feel self-indulgent today. You want to indulge your own wishes and whims, and you want to indulge the pleasures of others as well. Enjoy yourself!

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): You really don't feel too much like working today. If you can, just relax and do some of your favorite things.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): You're prepared to indulge young people and children today. You will buy them gifts and take them to exciting, interesting places. Similarly, you want to have a good time yourself!

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): This is the perfect day to relax at home and do as little as possible. Just get the bare minimum done. It's your turn to take a mental-health day.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): You might go overboard in discussions today. You feel emotional, effusive and very dramatic. There's nothing wrong with this. You are very dramatic!

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): It's very easy to spend too much money on extravagant luxuries today. Just be aware of this. On the other hand, if one can afford to, what can be more fun?

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): This is a lovely day to enjoy the company of others. People will be falling over each other to please you, and vice versa. Positive, optimistic vibes are in the air.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Be careful that you don't overindulge in sweets or alcohol (or any eating for that matter) to the point where it is not healthy. You're very tempted to overdo things today.

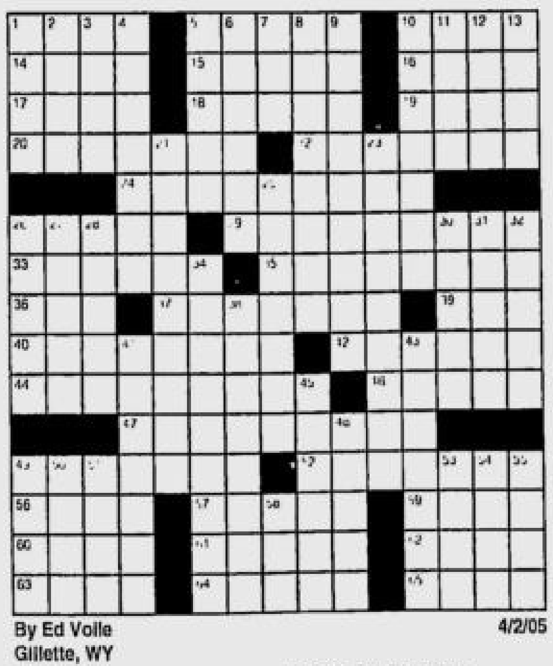
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Do get out today! Have fun with others. Sports and outdoor activities in particular will delight you. Playful times with children will also be pleasing.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): Be careful you don't overextend yourself or promise too much to someone—especially a parent, your boss or someone in authority. Think twice.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): Don't promise someone the Moon today—you might regret it. You're inclined to exaggerate or go overboard in your discussions with others. Be careful.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20): If you go shopping for shoes today, you will probably buy at least three pairs. It's that kind of day. People are likely to go overboard doing things that they love to do.

DAILY CROSSWORD



By Ed Voile
Gillette, WY

4/2/05

ACROSS
1 Hightailed it
5 Umpteen
10 Seize with force
14 Glamour competitor
15 Nestling's comment
16 Latvian capital
17 Ring recurrently
18 Harder to find
19 Attorney Dershowitz
20 Three-dimensional
22 Some fishermen
24 &
26 Emergency paper money
29 Distinguished between
33 Missing-persons investigator
35 Adolescent
36 Be under the weather
37 Get hitched again
39 Ginger __
40 Understood
42 Ranges
44 Practices
46 Encourages in crime
47 Superlatively doltish
49 Sugar cane byproduct
52 Perspired
56 Exploiter
57 Fry briefly
59 "__ la Douce"
60 Scorch
61 Animated Fudd
62 Manicurist's concern
63 Fabled loser
64 Night lights
65 Nimble

DOWN
1 TV units
2 Drop heavily
3 Miss Cinders of comics
4 Triangular
5 Abandon
6 Alpine cottage
7 Atmosphere
8 1931 Oscar-winning actress
9 Butter knives and spatulas
10 Pop's pop
11 Miff
12 Petri dish medium
13 Prohibits
21 Little Anthony's backup
23 No matter what happens
25 Took turns
26 Single step
27 Lawbreaking
28 Ellison or Bunche
30 Slack-jawed
31 Find a new tenant for a flat
32 Ringlet
34 Bridges once more
38 Exposed a card
41 Author of "The Night Manager"
43 Gets
45 Lady of the cloth
48 Bedside pitchers
49 Thicket
50 On the bounding main
51 Equipment
53 Pitfall
54 Abu Dhabi leader
55 Tyne or Timothy
58 Thurman of "The Truth about Cats & Dogs"

Friday's Puzzle Solved

S	A	S	S	Y	■	H	I	F	I	■	A	C	A	D
O	R	C	A	S	■	E	T	O	N	■	H	O	P	I
F	R	A	I	L	S	L	O	O	P	■	A	F	R	O
T	O	L	L	■	A	P	O	L	L	O	S	F	I	R
C	W	P	O	S	T	■	■	S	A	P	■	E	L	S
■	■	■	R	A	I	S	A	■	Y	U	L	E	■	■
H	O	O	F	B	E	A	T	S	■	S	A	B	E	R
M	A	U	L	■	■	M	O	C	■	■	P	A	W	N
O	R	T	O	N	■	S	N	O	W	T	I	R	E	S
■	■	O	P	E	C	■	E	T	H	O	S	■	■	■
A	T	F	■	H	A	S	■	■	I	N	F	L	O	W
F	A	L	L	I	S	P	O	O	R	■	L	A	L	A
T	R	U	E	■	P	O	L	A	R	F	O	I	L	S
R	O	C	K	■	E	R	I	K	■	C	O	N	A	N
A	S	K	S	■	R	E	O	S	■	C	R	E	S	T

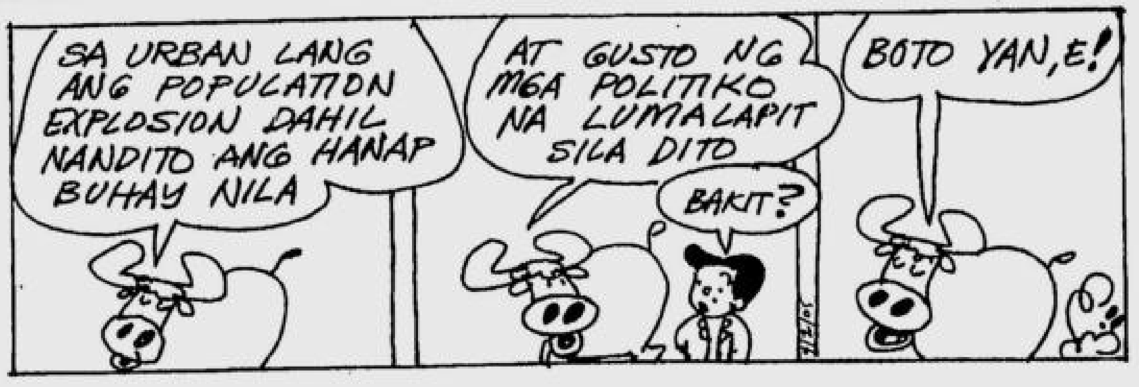
(C)2005 Tribune Media Services, Inc. All rights reserved.

4/2/05

GASFAR
fuel saving tips
DRIVE OFF PROMPTLY TO PREVENT WASTING FUEL
Don't leave your engine running when you first start up. Drive off away if you can, but drive gently until the engine has reached its normal operating temperature. This doesn't increase fuel efficiency as such, but does mean your engine is switched on for less time.

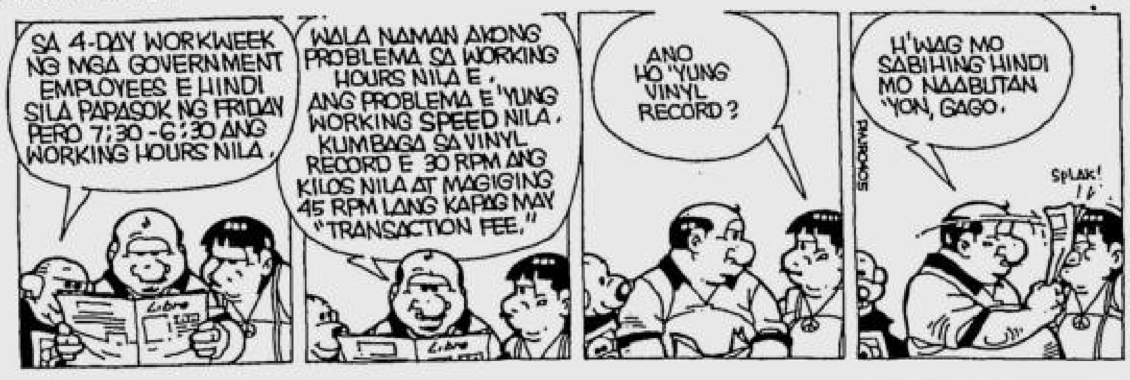
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


SA URBAN LANG ANG POPULATION EXPLOSION DAHIL NANDITO ANG HANAP BUHAY NILA
AT GUSTO NG MGA POLITIKO NA LUMALAPIT SILA DITO
BAKIT?
BOTO YAN, E!

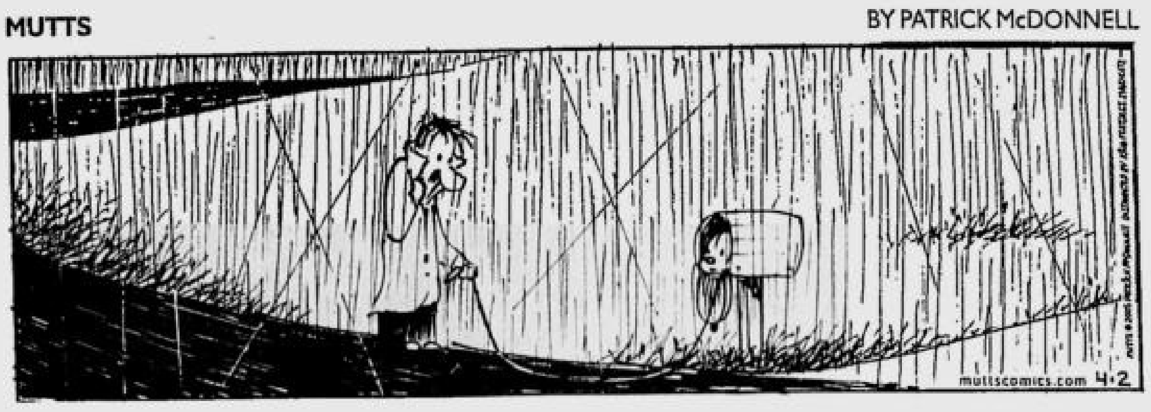
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


SA 4-DAY WORKWEEK NG MGA GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES E HINDI SILA PAPASOK NG FRIDAY PERO 7:30 -6:30 ANG WORKING HOURS NILA.
WALA NAMAN AKONG PROBLEMA SA WORKING HOURS NILA E. ANG PROBLEMA E 'YUNG WORKING SPEED NILA. KUMBAGA SA VINYL RECORD E 30 RPM ANG KILOS NILA AT MAGIGING 45 RPM LANG KAPAG MAY "TRANSACTION FEE."
ANO HO 'YUNG VINYL RECORD?
H'WAG MO SABIHING HINDI MO NAABUTAN 'YON, GAGO.
SPLAK!
Libre

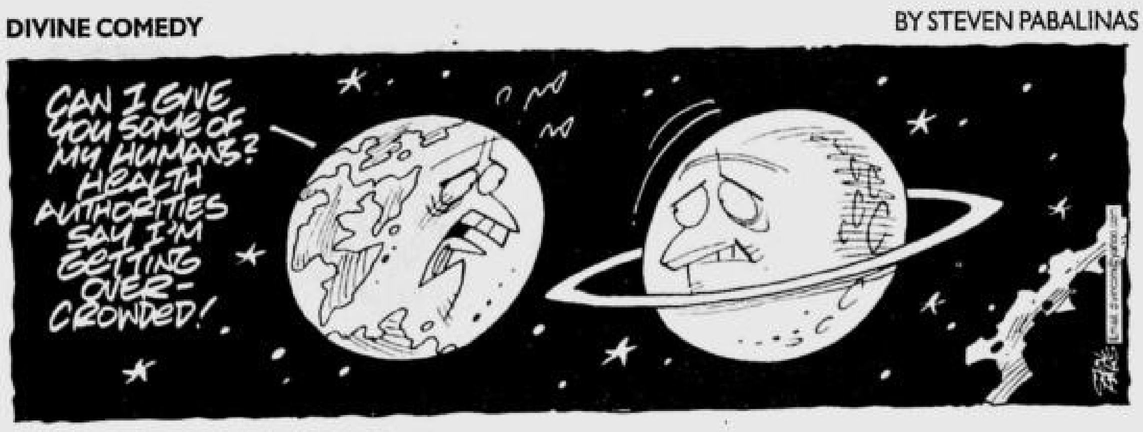
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


muttscomics.com 4·2

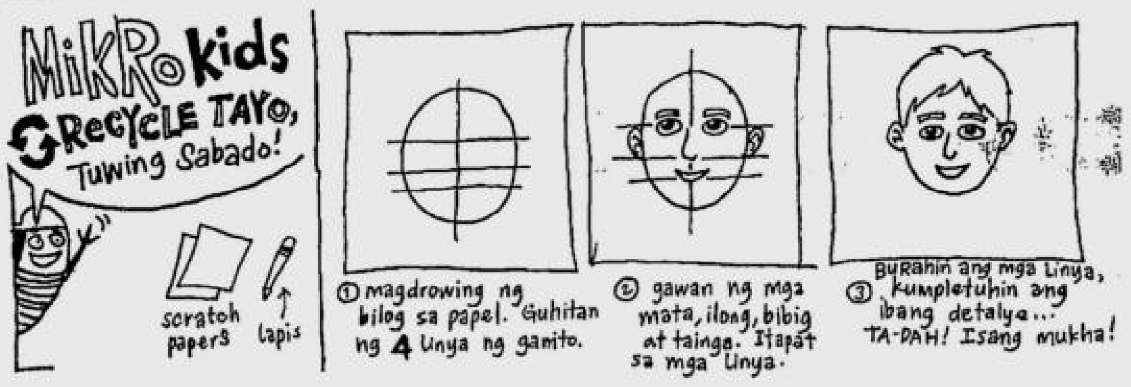
DIVINE COMEDY

BY STEVEN PABALINAS


CAN I GIVE YOU SOME OF MY HUMANS? HEALTH AUTHORITIES SAY I'M GETTING OVER-CROWDED!
NO NO

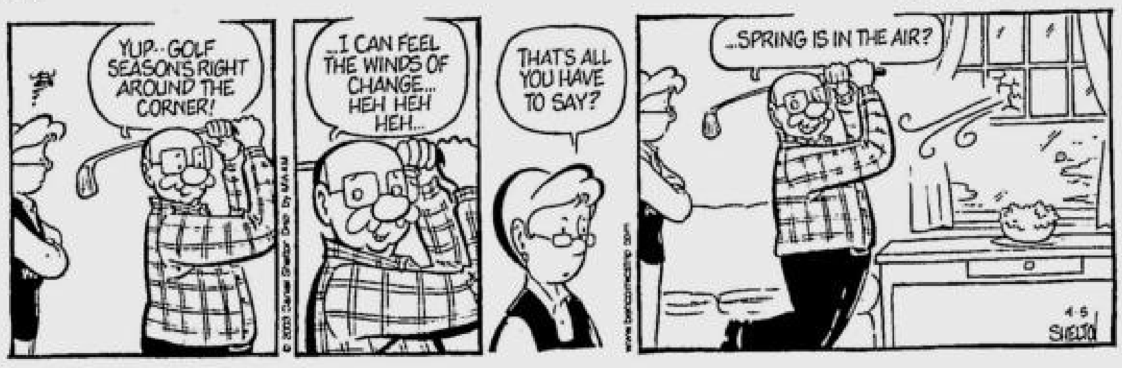
MIKROKOSMOS

BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


MiKRo kids
RECYCLE TAYO, Tuwing Sabado!
scratch papers
lapis
① magdrowing ng bilog sa papel. Guhitan ng 4 Linya ng ganito.
② gawan ng mga mata, ilong, bibig at tainga. Itapat sa mga Linya.
③ Burahin ang mga Linya, kumpletuhin ang ibang detalye... TA-DAH! Isang mukha!

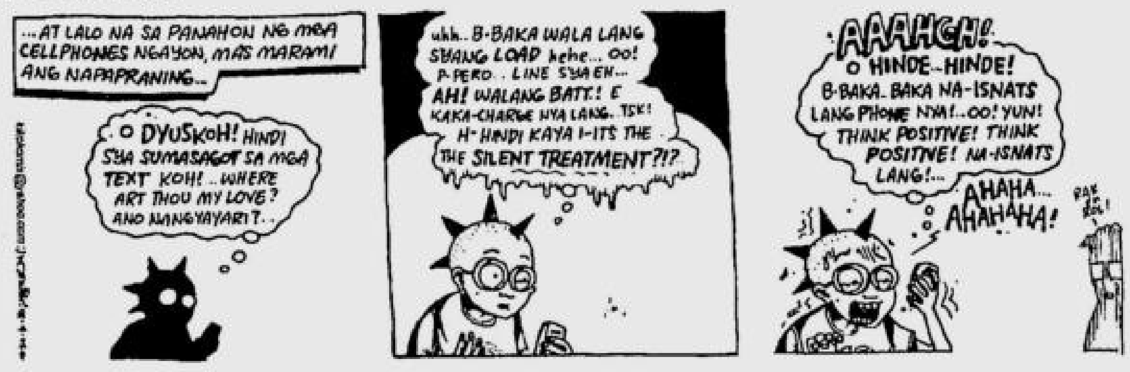
BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


YUP.. GOLF SEASON'S RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER!
...I CAN FEEL THE WINDS OF CHANGE... HEH HEH HEH...
THAT'S ALL YOU HAVE TO SAY?
...SPRING IS IN THE AIR?

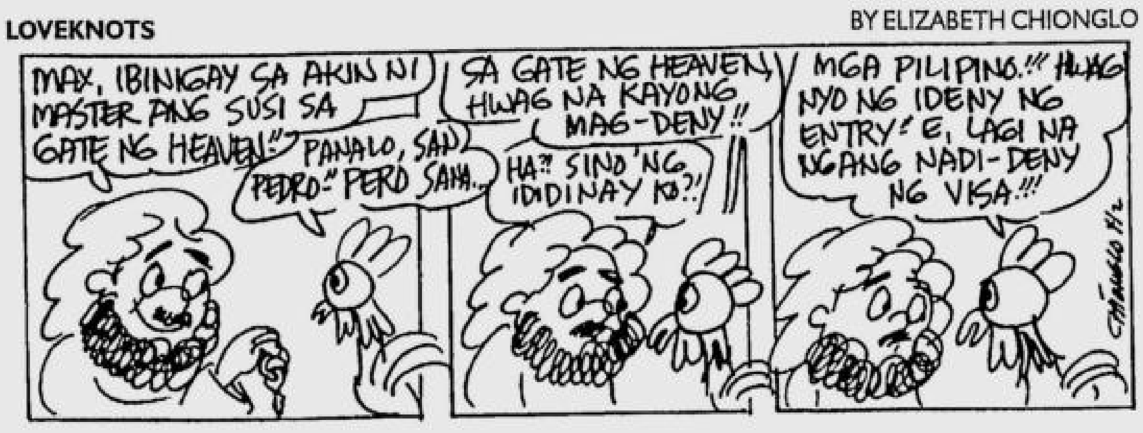
KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA


...AT LALO NA SA PANAHON NG MGA CELLPHONES NGAYON, MAS MARAMI ANG NAPAPRANING...
O DYUSKOH! HINDI SYA SUMASAGOT SA MGA TEXT KOH! ..WHERE ART THOU MY LOVE? ANO NANGYAYARI?..
uhh.. B-BAKA WALA LANG SYANG LOAD hehe... OO! P-PERO.. LINE SYA EH... AH! WALANG BATT.! E KAKA-CHARGE NYA LANG. TSK! H-HINDI KAYA I-ITS THE THE SILENT TREATMENT?!?
AAAHGH!
O HINDE..HINDE! B-BAKA.. BAKA NA-ISNATS LANG PHONE NYA!..OO! YUN! THINK POSITIVE! THINK POSITIVE! NA-ISNATS LANG!..
AHAHA... AHAHAHA!

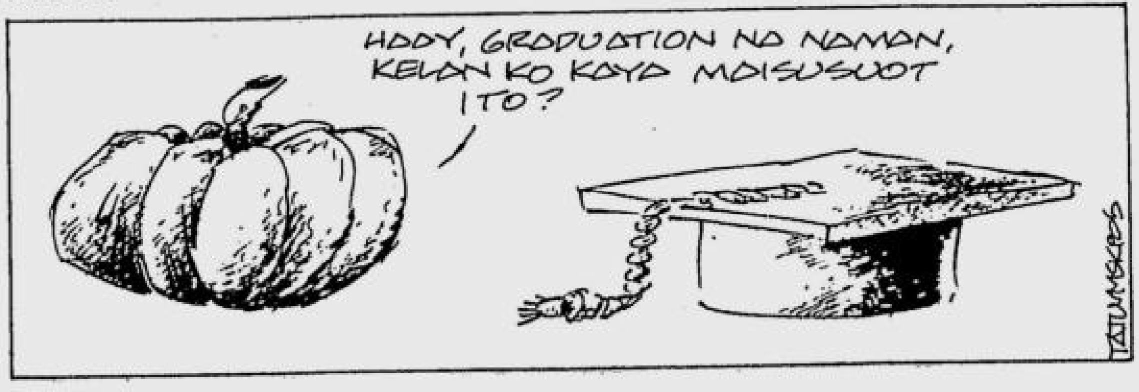
LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


MAX, IBINIGAY SA AKIN NI MASTER ANG SUSI SA GATE NG HEAVEN!
"PANALO, SAN PEDRO!" PERO SANA..
SA GATE NG HEAVEN, HWAG NA KAYONG MAG-DENY!!
HA?! SINO 'NG IDIDINAY KO?!
MGA PILIPINO!!! HWAG NYO NG IDENY NG ENTRY! E, LAGI NA NGANG NADI-DENY NG VISA!!!

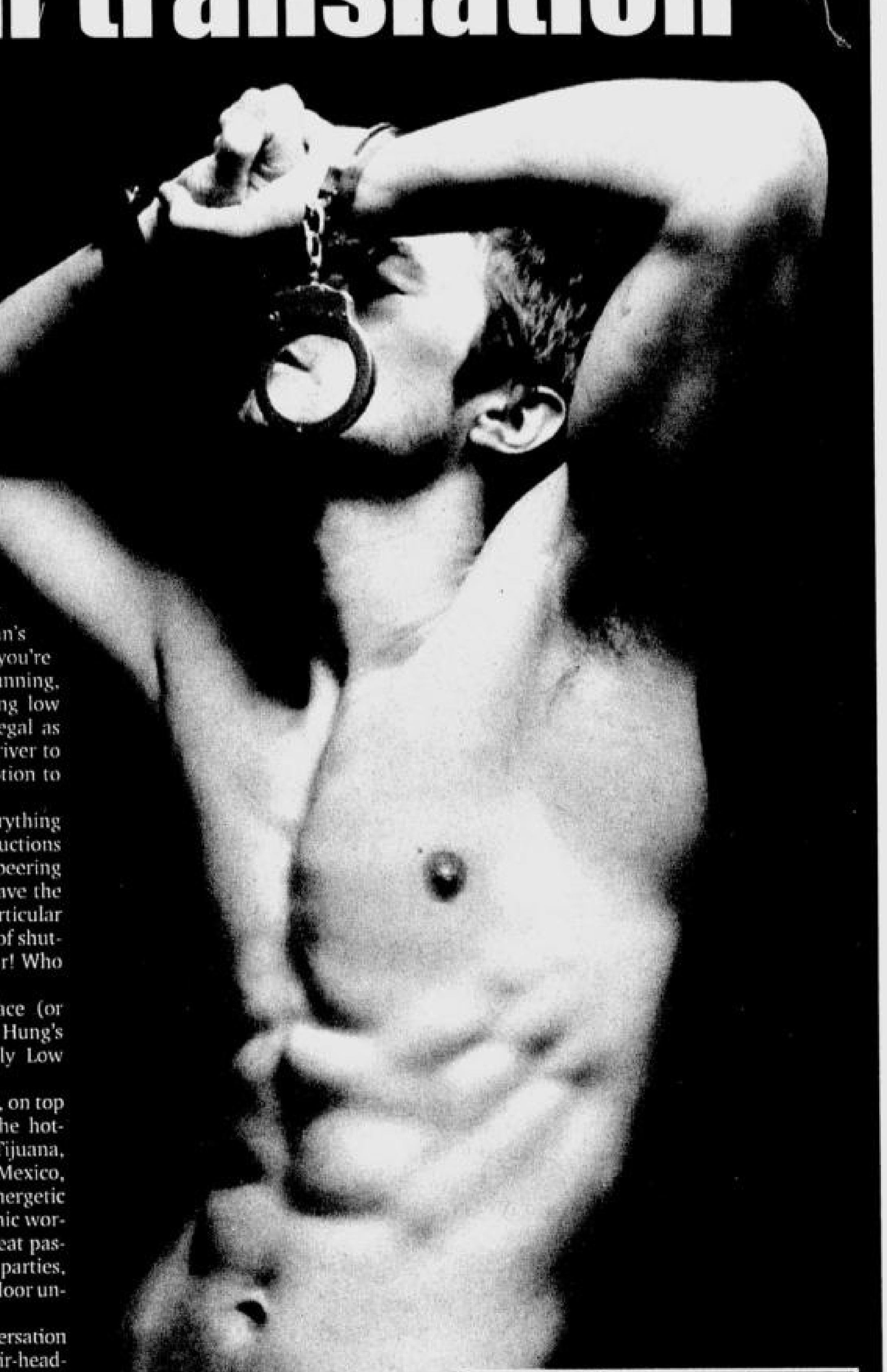
TULDOK

BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING


HOOY, GRADUATION NA NAMAN, KELAN KO KAYA MAISUSUOT ITO?

Lust in translation

Meet Cedric Sandez, the face (or more like the body) behind Folded and Hung's Illegally Low Jeans



By Tals Diaz
Photos by Raymund Isaac
STYLED BY MARLON RIVERA
MAKE UP BY JUAN SARTE

SO YOU'RE driving along the highway during rush hour, and the caffeine from the double espresso shots hasn't quite kicked in yet. Just as your eyelids grow heavy with the Sandman's dust still sprinkled on your lashes, you're suddenly jolted by an apparition. A stunning, half-naked guy on a billboard donning low rise jeans—so low they should be illegal as they're enough to cause any female driver to dangerously hit the brakes in mid-motion to stare upon instinct.

In a sea of billboards peddling everything from shampoos to backpacks and liposuctions as endorsed by models and celebs peering back at you, any road warrior does have the tendency to turn blassé, and yet this particular guy stands out in a captured moment of shut-eyed, post-climactic bliss. Damn, sugar! Who is that guy?

Introducing Cedric Sandez, the face (or more like the body) behind Folded and Hung's latest low rise sensation, the Illegaly Low Jeans collection.

He's another hot thing from Mexico, on top of the climate, the spicy food and the hot-headed boxing champs. Hailing from Tijuana, from the state of Baja California in Mexico, Cedric is the quintessence of loco, as energetic as a Mexican jumping bean, and a comic worthy of his own TV show. Music is a great passion of his—when he's not DJing for parties, he's likely to be found dancing on the floor until the last record spins.

Yet once you get deep... in conversation with him, he immediately dispels the air-headed, Zoolander stereotype. At 29, he's a wanderlust-driven bookworm who's traveled all over the world, and currently entrenched in a deep fascination for Eastern mysticism, most especially Chinese culture and civilization.

A staunch believer in energy, the causality of the universe and the principles of Gandhi, Cedric sees his life as a beautiful dream that he never pretends to wake up from. "Awake or asleep, we are always dreaming. One can think he's awake, but one never stops dreaming."

And just like a non-linear reverie, his thoughts meander, "The world and you are one. You share the same energy. I feel that the key to achieving a harmonious and peaceful life is to accept people just the way they are, without judging them. The gladiator era is over, so no more masks. The river as life is wise, that's why we are here... we all know the sound so take off your shoes and follow the flow."

Hmmm... perhaps in this rare occasion, a person's depth is directly proportional to the low rise of his jeans.

The Sizzling Sounds of Summer

24/7 Nocturnal Navigator

Janine Cuenca-Dario

THE SIMMERING heat has announced the coming of summer. Yet the influx of foreign artists continues this month without any signs of abating. After a slew of top artists Avril Lavigne, Jars of Clay and Norah Jones just last month, comes another batch of performers.

Ja Rule will be in town to perform with 7 Shots of Wisdom on April 23, at the Araneta Coliseum. [Call 911-5555]. Boyz II Men will also perform with special guest, Kyla, on April 23 at 8 p.m. at the PSC Multipurpose Arena (ULTRA). [Call 891-9999].

Manila seems to never tire of Patti Austin as she returns for an encore of her concert with Martin Nievera at the Araneta Coliseum on April 22 [Call 911-5555.]

The retro scene has never been this exciting with several artists flying over to Manila these last few months. While Pinoys were all agog over combos in the 60's, or what we now call bands, one of that era's most popular artists, The Cascades, will have shows on April 14 at the Hard Rock Café, Glorietta and on April 15, at the Araneta Coliseum.

Not to be missed is the concert of local rock scene superstars Kitchie Nadal and Rivermaya on April 16, 8 p.m. at the Araneta Coliseum.

Here is a listing of this week's sure fire boredom busters:

April 2, Saturday

Nyoy Volante at Captain's Bar
BBC's General Eclectic at Capone's
Swingin' Saturdays with Boyet Almazan at Teak
Dance Deluxe at Embassy
Flava'D with Rocky Rock at Absinth
Dancehall Saturdays at V Bar
DJ Mark at Prince of Jaipur
Savagely Sexy Saturday at Bed
Kevin Ruiz at Government
Kearny Street at Dusit Hotel

April 3, Sunday

Paseo Uno Trio at Paseo Uno
REP's The Little Shop of Horrors at Onstage
Dudley Diaz exhibit at Galleria Duemila
Zulu-zulu exhibit at Alliance Française
Michel Herbert exhibit at UP Vargas Museum

April 4, Monday

Freestyle at Tavern on the Square
I Don't Like Mondays! with DJ Ro at Gweilos
Rock/Motown: Mondaze at Absinth
Acoustic Night at Temple
Side A at Hyatt Hotel
Jazz Trio at Captain's Bar

April 5, Tuesday

Eclectic: Top DJ's Jam at Absinth
Ebony Grooves with Stephen Ku & Johnny Verse at V Bar
Spirit of 67 at Captain's Bar
Dudley Diaz exhibit at Galleria Duemila
Michel Herbert exhibit at UP Vargas Museum
Eddie Boy Escudero exhibit at Silver Lens Gallery
April 6, Wednesday
Manolet Dario at V Bar
RnB/Hip-hop: Superklasse at Embassy
Smooth Wednesdays with Steve Mills at Il Ponticello
Retro Nights at Prince of Jaipur
Steak Wednesdays with DJ Skratchmark at Absinth
Way Back Wednesdays at Bed
Kearny Street at Strumm's
Side A at Tavern on the Square
Jazz Trio at Captain's Bar

April 7, Thursday

Silk Thursdays with Miguel Ramirez at Temple
Reggae Night & DJ Patch at Absinth Mkti
Phuture Thursdays with Cocoy Puyat at Bed
Cuervo Nation Night with Steven Love at Government
Jazz Trio at Captain's Bar
Dudley Diaz exhibit at Galleria Duemila
Eddie Boy Escudero photo exhibit at Silver Lens Gallery

April 8, Friday

Decadance with Boyet Almazan at Jill's
HouSessions with Manolet Dario at Teak
Musik at Embassy
Soul Fridays with Steve Mills at V Bar
Halo & DJ Aryan at Phi Bar
Fantastic Fridays at Prince of Jaipur
U-Turn at Tapika
Fat Session at Tavern on the Square
Gogo Fridays at Bed
Bam del Valle at Government

Schedules may change without prior notice. For more information and a complete listing of events, text 24/7 through your mobile phone and send to 2949 for Globe and 209 for Smart. To win prizes such as Ipod Shuffles weekly and a Peugeot to be raffled off in June, log on to www.mag24-7.com or pick up your free copy of 24/7 Nocturnal Navigator at bars and restaurants around the city. Submit your schedules every Wednesday to e-mail address events@mag24-7.com and mag24_7@yahoo.com or fax number 892-0689.

The Cruel Algebra of Love

From page E1

you feel that he is. And perhaps, he could be the perfect match for you.

But I recommend that you divert yourself from such a restrictive philosophy. As I stated earlier, True Love is one of those things that has to be earned, not just discovered. We all hear stories of couples that meet in the most unexpected of circumstances, and have stayed together despite the rigors of age and senescence, and who claim to have been fortunate enough to have ended up with their kindred soul. For every wedding speech that narrated these mushy anecdotes, I guarantee there are just as much separation statements claiming "irreconcilable differences". While it is certainly romantic to imagine two wandering souls finding each other amidst the ocean of possible permutations, it is so much more exhilarating to find that they worked at it as well.

Instant message

To return to my hypothesis that we would all drop dead upon the conclusive discovery that there was but one person for each person, and that we could actually find out right away, let us embark on a disturbing fiction. Imagine a machine, like a photo booth, wherein one could sit inside, pay a couple thousand pesos, and have the computer within analyze the participant through X-rays or whatnot, and within five minutes print out a picture of his One True Love complete with her email address and the best time to Instant Message her. Out of nagging curiosity, and against my better judgment, I probably would take the damn test. But a smarter person would refuse.

Because all the poetry and art and communal progress that we, as a race, have achieved thus far, will unravel when Chuck Dy discovers that he is supposed to be with Kris Aquino. I knew it. Deep down inside, at the bosom of our personal hells, we all knew it.

I believe in True Love, but not necessarily a One True Love that exists independently of our influence. That would be an unbelievably cruel algebra. I think the mathematics of singularity, while romantic beyond description, is more a guideline than a rule. I believe that we should love a person as though he or she is the One True Love, with the desperation and enthusiasm reserved for unique situations. But requisite to that, I believe that everybody should be able to love again with the same ardor, even with a different person. Circumstances beyond our control will occasionally determine whether or not we can be with a person, such as your boyfriend leaving the country. If we anchor our selves to a force we cannot control, we risk crippling our ability to assimilate and enjoy future experiences, sometimes permanently.

To bring this rambling article to concise summation, you have to be optimistic about what you are going through, regardless of how bleak it may seem. Perhaps, there is such a thing as one person per person, but that is a matter of personal philosophy best exercised by loving the person as best as you can, while you can. In the end, having a healthy, fruitful relationship with another is simply a reflection of how much you're having a healthy, fruitful relationship with your self. So the man you love is leaving, but cherish the seven months you did have, and don't burn any bridges for a future together (it could happen). At the same time, don't hold your breath waiting for this to happen. Fill the void with activity and friends. Do something new. Make life and love pleasant accidents. Keep on moving, and keep on breathing. The world is waiting.

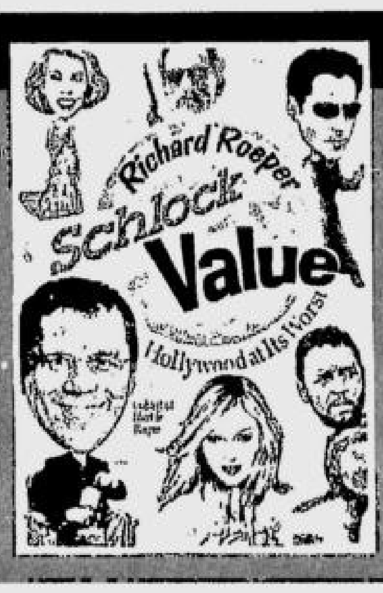
One day, hopefully, even I will settle down and end up with the person I love, not because she's was engineered by fate or biology to be my perfect match, but because we both worked at it. Or because a potent viral epidemic wipes out every other man on the planet, making me the last virile male specimen in an Amazonian island of double X chromosomes. In which case I refuse to be selfish with my love.

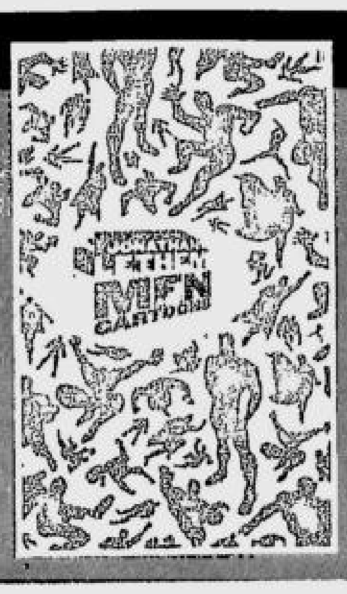
(email author at bohemiansamurai@yahoo.com)

Vitamin B

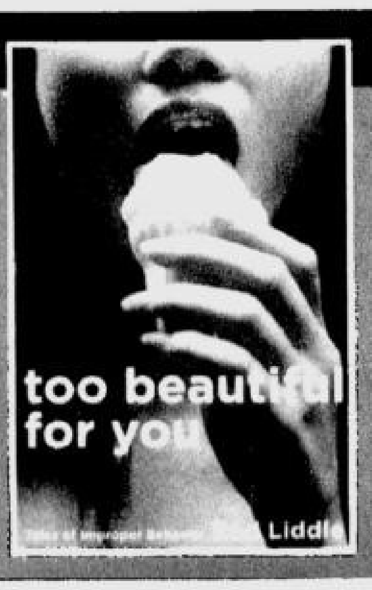
Super! rushed to Powerbooks at Greenbelt 4 for some post Easter reading and grabbed five books off the shelf. Based on its covers, we went for:

1. Richard Roeper's Schlock Value–Hollywood at its Worst
2. Bling by Erica Kennedy
3. Jonathan Lethem's Men and Cartoons
4. Too Beautiful for You–Tales of Improper Behavior by Rod Liddle
5. The making of Thirty Extraordinary Graphic Designers





Bling
ERICA KENNEDY

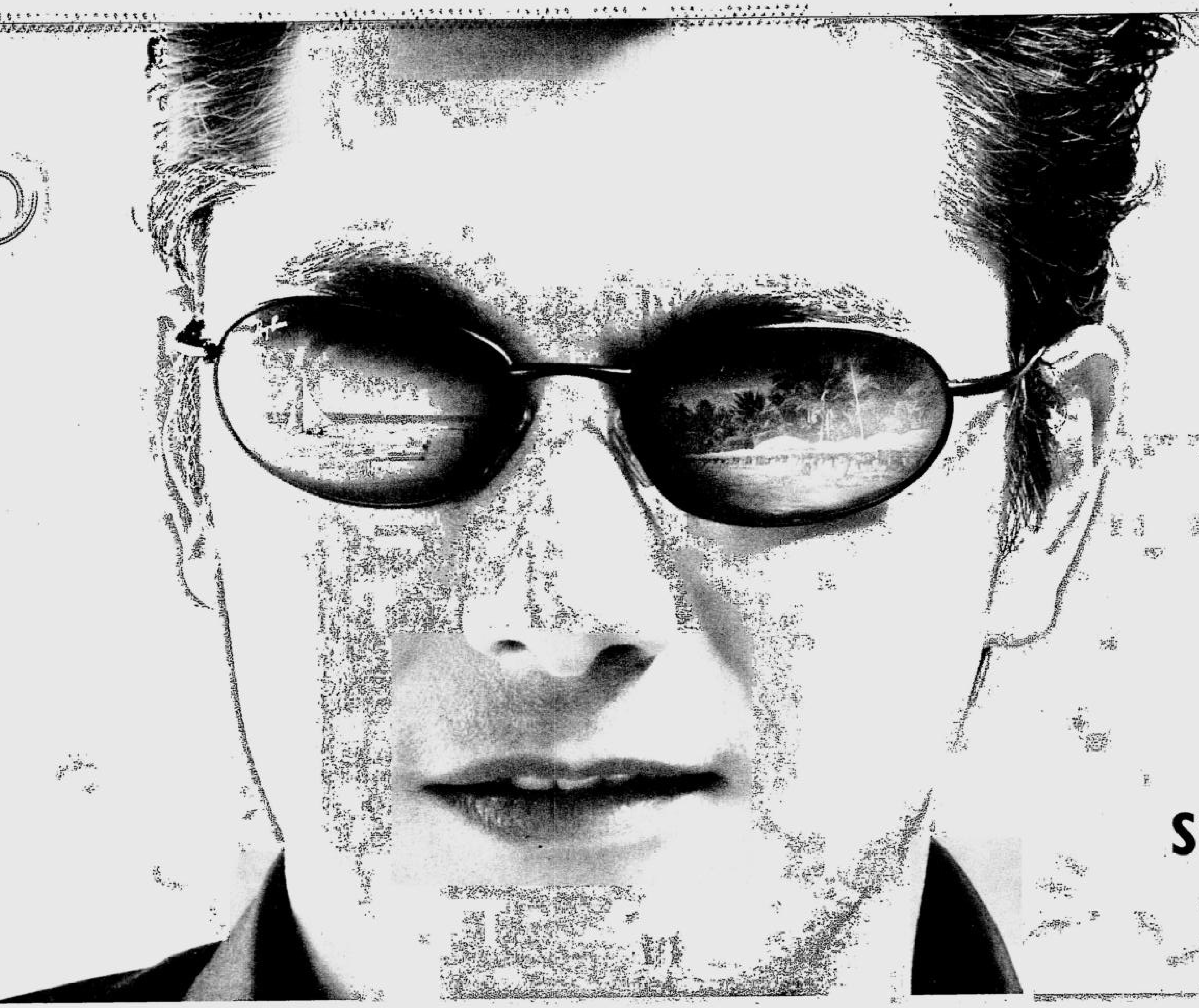


ALL ACCESS
BEHIND THE SCENES
THE MAKING OF THIRTY EXTRAORDINARY GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

SMART GOLD

Ray-Ban
GENUINE SINCE 1937



Sights to behold.

Purchase any pair of sunglasses from the SMART Gold Ray-Ban Collection and receive one Cebu Pacific roundtrip ticket–FREE.

Exclusive to SMART Gold subscribers.

- All sunglasses under the SMART Gold Ray-Ban collection available for only P4,750.00 each at all Ray-Ban outlets and dealers nationwide.
- One roundtrip ticket valid for travel from Manila to any Cebu Pacific destination in Visayas and Mindanao or vise versa.

Promo runs until May 31, 2005. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0692, Series of 2005.

For questions, comments, or concerns, you may call the SMART Hotline at 888-1111; *888 using your SMART cellfone; the SMART Corporate Hotline at #888; send a text message to 888 (Standard rate in excess of the FREETEXT allocation applies), e-mail us at smartgold@smart.com.ph, visit our website at www.smart.com.ph, or visit the SMART Wireless Center nearest you.

CEBU PACIFIC

APM EVENTS SPECIALIST

I ♡ SMART
Simply Amazing!

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Super 4
F1
E-mail: super@inquirer.com.ph
Text us your feedback: inquirer sup name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

KC'S FLAT IN PARIS!

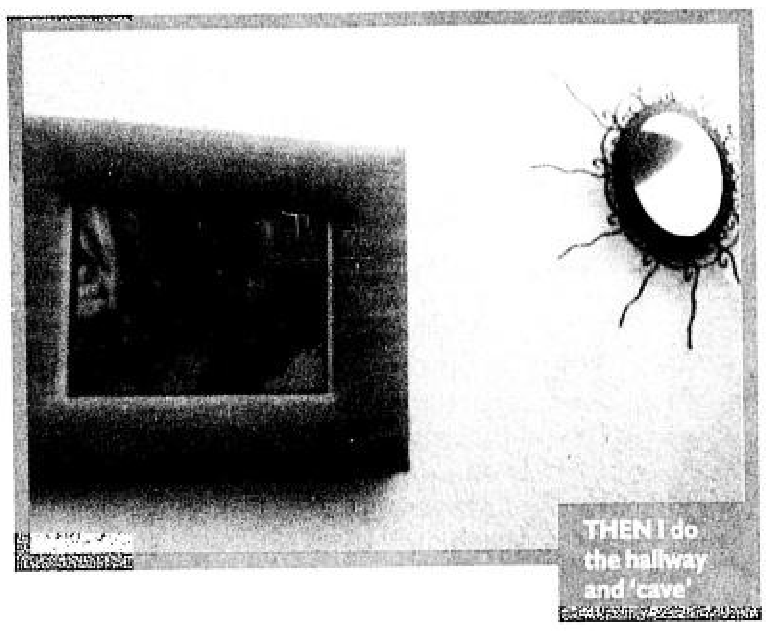
style . urban living . pop culture . entertainment . recreation

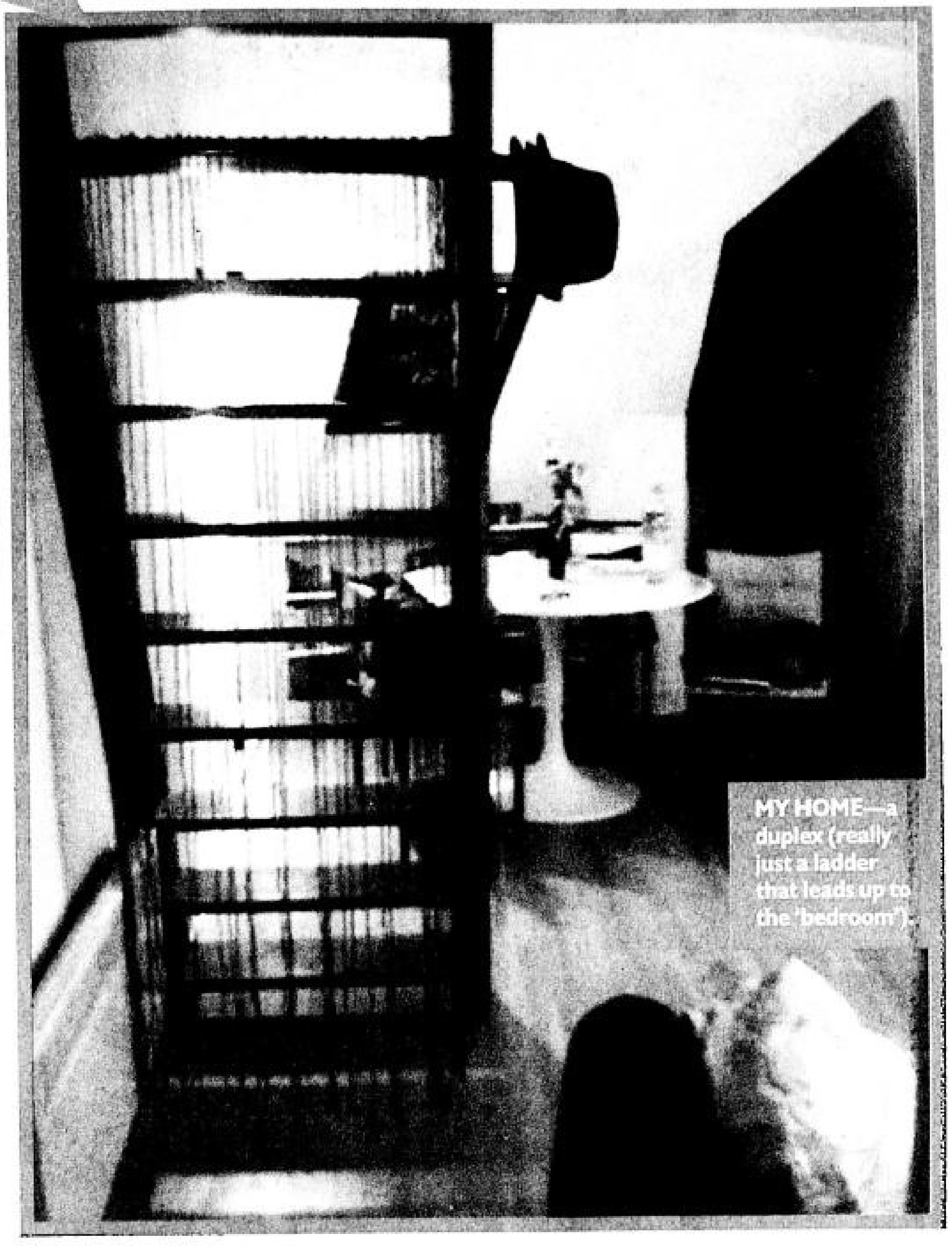
PREFER to do the wet stuff first—washing windows or appliances, laundering.

Sunday mornings get me high on household work

KULIT CO.

KC Concepcion


THEN I do the hallway and 'cave'


MY HOME—a duplex (really just a ladder that leads up to the 'bedroom').

I'VE HEARD all their stories, been amused by their wildly varying personalities, recorded mental notes of their strange character quirks, and most importantly, I've learned actual life lessons from each one of them, no matter which cities of origin they've brought these lessons back from. I'm talking about my family's household help back home.

In the last century, women lived planning housework as a daily routine, dictating which household job would be done on each day of the week. Helpers are now, in effect, career women in this day and age, as they head out to new worlds to make cosmopolitan homes sparkle. Students, on the other hand, don't have the heart to dedicate their free time to household chores. I'm going to have to say that I've hidden behind the overly popularized reaction, "We're in college! Clean rooms? It wouldn't be right." But moving from my humble little 15-square-meter chambre de bonne to my 46-square-meter apartment has taught me a little bit about cleaning, especially as I have the space now to accommodate company in the forms of human and canine friends.

With their stories I remember I would daydream of one day being able to climb a coconut tree, and wondered why I never learned to do this in my childhood. I also remember spending a lot of time getting them to help me clean up the fridge, which was one of my favorite hobbies as a child. Years later, it is beginning to seem like they are eager to leave that particular job to me, almost to welcome me back home. But, it's okay. I've taken the opportunity and turned this into a regular bonding session with our *katulongs*. Throwing out expired goods, sectioning food products in both the pantry and fridge, defrosting, wiping up spillage, getting rid of clutter.

Cleaning

Sunday mornings get me high on household work.

My home—a duplex (really just a ladder that leads up to the 'bedroom'), start at the top, working down. I clean this area first, then move onto the living room, where I clean walls, floors, behind and underneath furniture.

Prefer to do the wet stuff first—washing windows or appliances, laundering.

Dry stuff next—dusting, then vacuuming.

I usually leave these to do last—bathrooms, kitchens, utility rooms—because they can get quite nasty, and knowing I've done half of the whole house gears me up to do this.

Then I do the hallway and 'cave' (storage room) and steps leading to my door, as well as the door itself (I don't know if it's even my territory anymore but somehow this made me want to clean the elevator and mailboxes as well.)

Bedroom

3 things not to ignore:

1. Changing the sheets at least once a week! It's just better that way.

2. Vacuuming the mattress every couple of months and using a mattress protector you can wash once a month (especially if the bed comes with your rent).

3. Keeping the bed smelling real good by placing a fabric softener sheet under the blanket. Another (semi-barbaric) way of doing this is spritzing some rubbing alcohol on the pro-

SUNDAY/ F2

WORK it, girl!

Thermo Green Tea
BFAD FR-43347

Natural Fat Burner

burn it.
maintain it.

ThermoGreen Tea capsules from Universal Nutrition is the first clinically-proven, ephedra-free, thermogenic fat burner in the world. It has been proven to increase thermogenesis by up to 43% without increasing heart rate.

It is good for everyday use to maintain your weight and its anti-oxidant properties help protect your body against free radicals.

Healthy Options
Better Choices. Better Life.

- Shangri-La Plaza, EDSA
- SM Megamall, EDSA
- Rustan's Supermarket, Makati
- Greenbelt Makati
- SM City North EDSA
- SM City Manila
- Festival Supermall, Alabang
- Ayala Center, Cebu
- SM City Pampanga

www.healthyoptions.com.ph

NOW YOU'RE IN

RED HOT TO HANDLE. Nicole Hernandez chilling by the beach

WITH AMP sis Maike Evers

TWICE THE FUN. Dara and Ornusa Cadness

WEARING LOUNGERIE. Bianca Araneta in Celine Lopez swimwear

Slinky bodies and Hed Kandi tunes

BIKINI ALERT

BIKINI BEAUTIES. Josephine with Avi Siwa and swimsuit designer and model Czarina Sarte

ARIA'S abs Juan Elizalde

Text and photos by Tim Yap

BORA days, driftin' away, to uh, oh those Bora nights..." Before I tell you more, let me tell you that most of these souls are still in Bora mode—for who can resist the parade of bodies in bikinis by the beach?

The Station 3-2-1 ramp comprised of ladies wearing Loungerie by Celine Lopez, Minx by Tina Daniac and Czarina Sarte, Ketty Estrella and Starlet by Wendy Puyat-Hotung. Generic swimwear is for old ladies. You must have an "it" girl's logo attached to your shirt sleeve as you frolic in the sand. And while you're at it, don any of Jenni Epperson's ati-ati-glam bags for that "Hala Bira!" summer fighting spirit! Caticlan has never been this catty.

Last Saturday's Super! highlight was the Slinky party at Hey Jude! Tonight it's a back to back Super! treat with Bliss (4:30 p.m. sunset party at Club Paraw, sponsored by Smart Infinity) and Big Fish's Hed Kandi (10:30 p.m. at Hey Jude!) both headlining the Addict Mobile party trail.

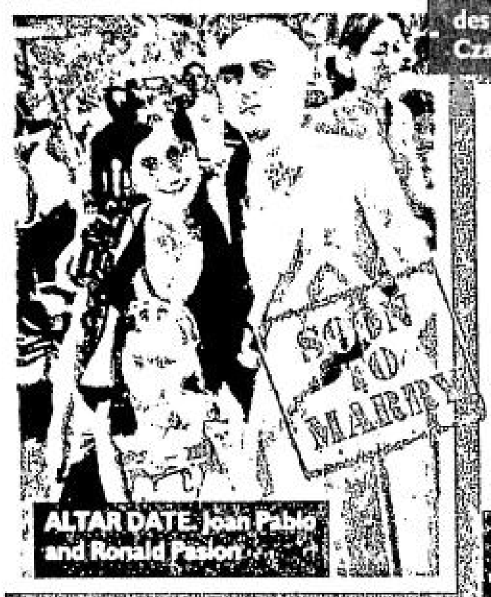
And then after all that partying, you'll definitely sing with me,

"Bora lovin' had me a blast, Bora lovin', happened so faaaassst..."

BAMBOO SHOOTS. Ira Cruz, Nicoletta Belle and Nathan Azarcon

TEAM ADDICT. Jeremy Yao and Nina Gomez

MARRIED ADDICTS. Louie and Maureen Ang



ALTAR DATE. Joan Pablo and Ronald Pasion

WINNING Wes Gonzales

MANNO PO. Nyoy Volante and his Manno

IS JASON Biggs chilling in Boracay?

DARING Dara gets some sun

ABS FAB (I WISH). Borgy, Paolo V, Tim and Brent

MTV AYOS GANG. Tenjie Daguio, Mark Ocampo and VJ John Joe Joseph

WAZZUP, BORA? Mitch Hernanadez and Charles Lejano with the Wazzup crew

PRECIOUS PEOPLE. Ana Angara and Rosanne Prieto

Sunday mornings get me high on house

From page F1

tector then sprinkling some baby powder over it before placing the covers.

Daily Routine: Make the bed when you get up. Opening windows also helps to get air rushing into the room and into your system before you start your day. In case you have a bad day, at least fall into a yummy bed!

Living room

3 things not to ignore:

1. Telephone receivers (cell phones need some disinfecting too), even if it's just to spray some Lysol or (tried and trusted) rubbing alcohol on a piece of cloth and wiping the receiver clean. This goes for computer, TV, and stereo equipment as well, but these call for more gentle static-free products that shouldn't be sprayed directly onto the surface.

2. Stain removers include baking soda mixed with water (also works for tea or coffee stains), distilled white vinegar for pet urine on carpets or to bring out shine in silverware (when mixed with soap and water), and calamansi peeled at the top and rubbed against a fabric stain.

3. Vacuuming every corner and angle of everything! Under furniture, lampshades, air-conditioning vents, electric fans, bookcases, cds, dvds, picture frames... Really, the vacuum cleaner is a luxury!

Daily Routine: Use a different cloth for each room. It's disgusting to cross-clean considering all the different kinds of scum the cloths pick up. Just imagine.

Kitchen

The kitchen is always where the heart is, in our family. Soulfood gets cooked up, memories are made here (not to mention bonding sessions with the helpers), and so are the secret family recipes (mostly created accidentally in my lifetime).

I accidentally found a great way to make the kitchen attract the Gods... In attempting to make some real-true Chai tea, then naturally failing to do so. Fill up a small saucepan with water and bring it to a simmer. Dump in some cinnamon, cloves, vanilla, and orange or *dalandan* peel, and let the sunshine in!

3 things not to ignore:

1. Wiping up the spillages in the microwave. Multitask! For 3 minutes, try cooking an uncovered bowl of water with a few slices of calamansi (or lemon) to let the steam loosen the dirt, and have it smell fresh at the same time.

2. Posting a list of what's in the freezer, to keep from opening the door frequently. You don't want your low-tech non-frost-free model to ice up quickly, because it is not fun at all to defrost a freezer.

3. Taking out the trash before the bin is filled up and greeting all the guests. Invest in trash bags or grocery *supots*. This is good to keep flies away, as well (flies are known to carry up to 2 million bacteria, and are fast breeders—females lay batches of 150 eggs at a time, which hatch in a span of one full day)!

Daily Routine: When doing the dishes it's easier to wash the glasses separately, and it's important to try your best not to knock anything over unnecessarily, because you will be paying for either what you don't have, or what is not yours. Cups & mugs together, then the plates, then utensils, then the pans and cooking dishes. That's if you cook (after moving to a new apartment I found a lace thong packed in my friend's saucepan. Now we know what she does in the kitchen)!

Bathroom

3 things not to ignore:

1. Baking soda rinsed in the tub with warm water works wonders.

2. Hang the shower curtain up after rinsing at least the ends of it with warm water and soap to keep it from going moldy.

3. I like leaving the door open to keep air circulating after a hot shower, unless there is an urgent need to clean up the tiles, which works easier when the bathroom is all steamed up, anyway.

Daily Routine: Bleach tablets or distilled white vinegar diluted in toilet water can make the toilet look a whole lot cleaner. College students, please flush after each use (I don't care if you are saving money by cutting costs on water use) and with a toilet brush that is either changed or disinfected regularly I think it is best to invest in a scented toilet cleaner and scrub

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

BEST SHAD
E!
FLEX IT
ICE PRINCESS

DIG those flowers, Borgy!

BATHING BEAUTY: Ormusa, oh oh Ormusa! Wearing swimwear by Minx by Tina Daniac and Cazrina Sarte

RATED R: Rafa Alunan and Riley Yeo

HEY JUDESTERS! Jun Poblador with preggy partyphile Louise

WANNA play some ball in Boracay?

old work

ter yourself at the end of each day.

lutter

3 things not to ignore:

1. Removing whatever's in the pantry fore stuffing in new products, to see hich ones should be thrown away. Also, eck to see what you haven't used from gathering or party, and decide whether not you want to keep it there for the xt get-together (I once found a poor lit- can of expired Chili con Carne which, the first place, did not belong in the chen of a semi-vegetarian).

2. Putting away clothes, appliances, dgets, wires, ANYTHING you don't use, haven't used in the past 2 years. Pass to those who will find use in them elpers and their families are a safe bet), d don't even think of giving broken, eless junk away to someone who is not a magician, handyman, or artist!

3. Dealing with all the clutter could translate into quality time with the vacuum or duster. Storage areas could keep disgusting dust mites in your life, so please DO get them away! A Science project in 7th grade had us magnify a dust mite to the size of a basketball, and this image of hell has traumatized me ever since.

So that's my carousel of mother-hen advice. After a while, chores become second nature until you don't realize you are doing them anymore, and that's even more reason to start coming face-to-face with college-life dirt! A neat room has got to be worth fighting for. It helps to look at cleaning up like lovin' the soul. Ten minutes a day will save you hours and hours of extra time to work, play, study and party. As you plunge into the sweet smell of skin in the Summer sun... I'm all revved up for Spring!

Superfriends!

Text and photos by David Milan

E-MAIL: MICHAELJUSTINCARUNCHO@YAHOO.COM

Justin Caruncho
Tonight, I'm going to: Bed
The thing that I want to rediscover about myself is: Real happiness
I want to go back in the time when I used to: Really really enjoy the simple things in life

E-MAIL: ANDREADEGUZMAN@YAHOO.COM

Andrea de Guzman
Tonight, I'm going to: Pray that it's a Super! Saturday forever!
I want to go back in the time when I used to: Eat and not worry about getting fat & dance like no one is watching.

E-MAIL: SLYSAMONTE@GMAIL.COM

Sly Samonte
Tonight, I'm going to: ENJOY GRADUATION!
I love it when I used to: Be past the break waiting for a wave. Because of the stroke—It's the biggest rush to wait for a wave that could redefine you as a surfer.

E-MAIL: JOMARC_0327@YAHOO.COM

Joan Peñaranda
Tonight, I'm going to: Spend time with my boyfriend, then do some final school work
The thing that I want to rediscover about myself is: My athletic side

E-MAIL: JTRES@YAHOO.COM

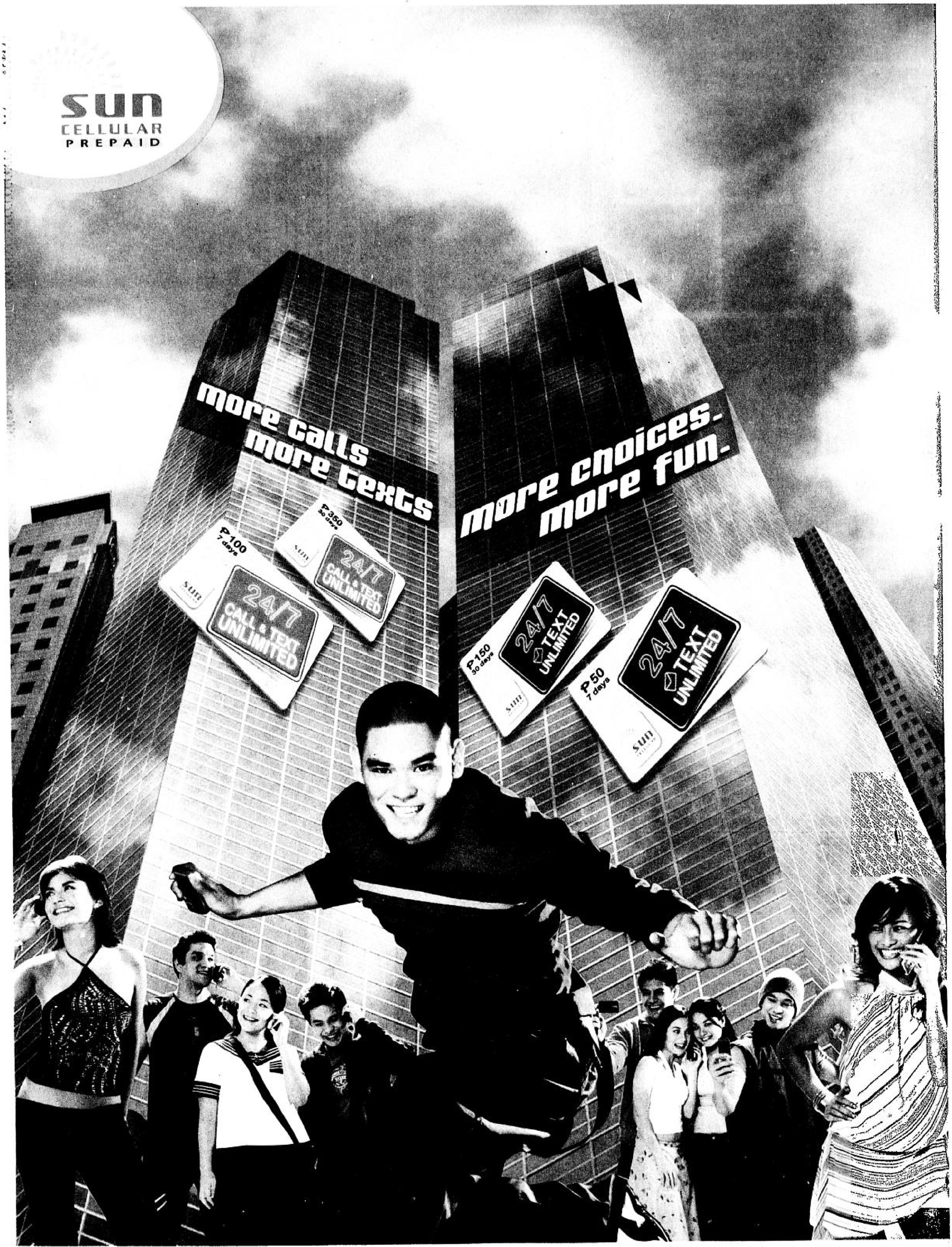
JR Joaquino
Tonight, I'm going to: Tagaytay and hopefully not comeback to Casino Filipino again!
The thing that I want to rediscover about myself is: My brain... haha

E-MAIL: LAY@YAHOO.COM

Lilian Lay
Tonight, I'm going to: Embassy and Prince of Jaipur
The thing that I want to rediscover about myself is: My real purpose
I want to go back in the time when I used to: Go to school!

THE WET SET
See Me Sit Riders
~~P~~
P249.75
Fun under the Sun
Aquarium Pool
~~P1,~~
P799.75
Paradise Lagoon Swim Center Pool
~~P1,~~
P1,399.75
Solid Blue Easy Set Pool
~~P2,~~
P1,999.75
INTEX EASY SET
Promo valid from March 18 - April 30, 2005
INTEX
Exclusively distributed by Bankee Trading, Inc.
www.bankee.com.ph
Available at all participating outlets with promo materials.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0680 Series of 2005

BEST COPY AVAILABLE


sun
CELLULAR
PREPAID
more calls
more texts
more choices.
more fun.
₱100
7 days
24/7
CALL & TEXT
UNLIMITED
₱350
30 days
24/7
CALL & TEXT
UNLIMITED
₱150
30 days
24/7
TEXT
UNLIMITED
₱50
7 days
24/7
TEXT
UNLIMITED
sun

Choose a Sun Cellular 24/7 service to suit your needs and budget. For as low as ₱50, you can text all you want Sun-to-Sun thanks to the NEW 24/7 TEXT UNLIMITED. Or you can enjoy unlimited Sun-to-Sun calls and texts with 24/7 Call & Text Unlimited for as low as ₱100.

24/7 Call & Text Unlimited and the NEW 24/7 TEXT UNLIMITED are available to prepaid subscribers in 4 affordable denominations with corresponding validities. These are available in 24/7 call cards and e-pins which can be purchased and loaded up just like regular Sun Cellular Prepaid call cards.

prepaid choices

price	validity
₱ 50	7 days
₱150	30 days
₱100	7 days
₱350	30 days

* 24/7 Call & Text Unlimited and 24/7 Text Unlimited apply to local Sun-to-Sun calls & texts only.

- 24/7 loads have separate & distinct validity periods from regular Sun Cellular Prepaid load.
- Loading up any 24/7 card will NOT prevent you from receiving calls or texts from other subscribers.
- To check the validity of your 24/7 load, text **STATUS** to **248.**
- For more details, call our hotline by dialling 200 on your Sun Cellular phone or (02) 395-8000 via landline. You may also visit our website www.suncellular.com.ph.

If you have enough regular load in your account, you may also convert this to a 24/7 service of your choice. To convert via text:

- For ₱50 24/7 Text Unlimited: Text **TU<space>7** & send to **247**
- For ₱150 24/7 Text Unlimited: Text **TU<space>30** & send to **247**
- For ₱100 24/7 Call & Text Unlimited: Text **CTU<space>7** & send to **247**
- For ₱350 24/7 Call & Text Unlimited: Text **CTU<space>30** & send to **247**

Better Network. Better Value.